



## Rude words scare off investors

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## Abuse unfit for broadcast

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# Future of classical music the East



Tan Dun will take up the baton to lead in the coming Lucerne Festival, hoping to bring an Eastern influence to Europe's leading festival for classical music, which comes to Beijing as the sixth stop on its world tour next month.

See what's in his mind on Pages 12-13.

Greenpeace  
calls out  
coal plants

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# Luke-warm response to auto replacement subsidy

By Jin Zhu

Beijingers who sell their cars to purchase new ones will be given a subsidy of 3,000 to 6,000 yuan according to a joint circular issued by Beijing Finance Bureau, Beijing Municipal Commission of Commerce and Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau on Monday.

Automobiles including light trucks and mid-sized taxi used fewer than eight years and mid-and small-sized trucks and mid-sized passenger cars used fewer than 12 years are eligible for the subsidy.

Consumers who sell automobiles that no longer meet the government's emission standards but are still within their life expectancy can also get a subsidy.

Claims may be filed between August 24 and May 31, and must include a confirmation receipt from the recycling station and the receipt of purchase for the new automobile. Payment will be made within 15 working days.

The new program is intended to stimulate private spending and curb pollution. According to estimates from the Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau, 20,000 to 30,000 old vehicles will be replaced.

However, a recent survey by the Ministry of Commerce was less enthusiastic. Over 80 percent of the respondents said they would not consider replacing their automobiles until the subsidy increased to 15,000 yuan.

Over 50 percent said 20,000 yuan would be more attractive to consumers.

"Compared with the profits from trading old vehicles in the market, the subsidy is simply too low to attract consumers," Tan Xiangdong, director of Beijing Old Motor Vehicle Exchange Center, said.

A Santana produced in 1998 has a market value of 20,000 yuan. But even with the manufacturer rebate, consumers can only get 12,000 yuan through the subsidy program, he said.

Many countries have started auto replacement programs to stimulate private spending during the financial crisis.

Germany, a major carmaker and one of the first countries to promote the program, offered 2,500 (24,300 yuan) to consumers who replaced vehicle older than nine years old with newer energy-saving models. Subsidies in France, Spain and Holland ranged from €1,000 to €1,750 (9,700 to 17,000 yuan).

"There is a huge disparity between the subsidies offered here and in other countries. If this will be a long-term program to stimulate private spending and curb pollution, then the government should increase its subsidy," Jia Xinguan, an analyst from China Association of Automobile Manufacturers, said.

"The program could also offer extra rewards to consumers who discard old vehicles within their life expectancy like giving a loan at reduced interest," he said.



The low subsidy is unlikely to entice many drivers to trade in their aging cars.  
CFP Photo

## New rules give gov oversight on project

The State Council Wednesday passed a draft regulation that would require evaluating the environmental costs of new projects to prevent pollution and ecological destruction at the source.

Under the regulation, evaluations would be required before approval of all new development plans, according to the minutes of a council meeting presided over by Premier Wen Jiabao.

It covers all development activities, from land use and the development of rivers and oceans, to development projects related to industrial, agricultural, animal husbandry and forestry sectors, as well as energy, water conservation, transportation, urban construction, tourism and exploration of natural resources.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection in June suspended two hydro-power station projects over the Jinshajiang River, upstream of the Yangtze River, which had been started without approval.

China Huaneng Group and China Huadian Corporation, which own the two plants, were ordered to make environmentally-friendly improvements to their high energy-consuming and high-polluting projects.

The regulation will be revised and publicized by the State Council for enforcement, according to the meeting.

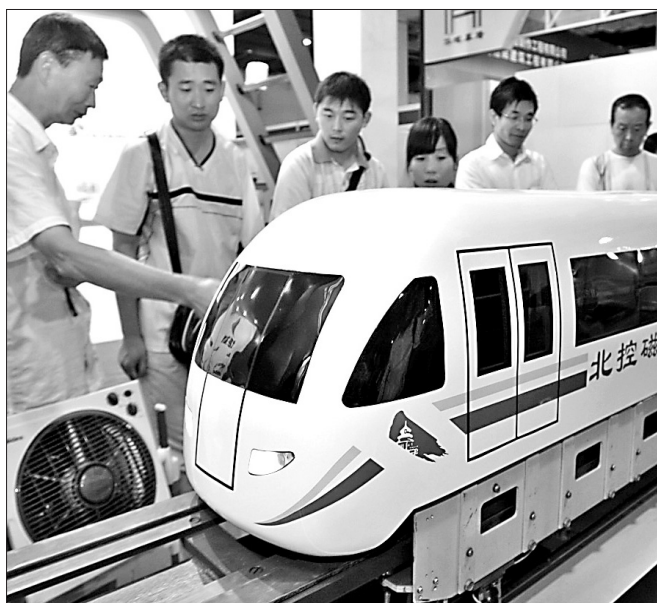
The government would continue to work with other countries and play a constructive role for the success of the Copenhagen conference on climate change, according to a statement.

China would also tie its strategy to stop climate change into its economic and social development planning, it said.

The country would work hard to meet the target of reducing energy consumption for every 10,000 yuan of GDP by 20 percent by 2010, raising the ratio of renewable energy to 10 percent of the total and achieving forest coverage of 20 percent.

(Xinhua)

## New maglev train to relieve traffic woes



The country's first maglev train is looking for buyers.  
CFP Photo

By Zhao Hongyi

China's first maglev train is not operational, and its makers are in the market for potential buyers.

The train runs at a speed of 100 to 120 kilometers per hour, much slower than its

high-speed counterparts which travel 400-500 kilometers per hour. However, it makes up for the speed with reduced noise, cost and radiation, Wang Ping, deputy general manager of Beijing Magnet Train Technology, said.

ogy, said.

The train was shown in Beijing at the 2009 China International City Traffic, Subway, Rail Transportation and Municipal Facilities Exhibition held August 7 to 9. One of the new trains is slated for use in the capital's S1 subway line in 2015.

Maglev trains do not have wheels and make no contact with the rails, so noise is limited during operation. This makes it easier to extend rail systems into residential communities and the downtown area. Radiation is also very low, making the train safe beyond several meters.

"These advantages should help it be quickly accepted by the public," Wan Jun, an engineer from Beijing Urban Engineering Design & Research Institute, said.

"The knowledge and technology behind this maglev train is some of the best in the world," Wang Ping, deputy general manager of Beijing Magnet Train Technology, said. "It's a low-speed maglev train that is ideal for transportation within a city."

"The maglev train in Shang-

hai, introduced from Germany, has received complains from nearby residents because of its noise and radiation," Wan said.

The average price of construction and maintenance per kilometer of the new train is around 280 million yuan, much lower than the cost of Shanghai's imported line, which cost 313 million yuan excluding license fees. The price is about equivalent to the cost of half of Beijing's existing underground lines.

The train's turn radius of 75 meters is shorter and more precise than current subway and cable car technology. The only disadvantage is that the maglev train has a lower load-bearing capacity than other trains, allowing for half the number of passengers.

"Compared with the magnet trains put into use in 2005 in Japan, ours is more sophisticated. The cabins are wider and more comfortable with room for passengers to board," Wang said.

Since the magnet train technology company was founded in September 2001, Beijing has

invested heavily in the development of a magnet train suitable to city transportation to solve the capital's traffic woes as the population exceeds 30 million.

The maglev train displayed over the weekend was the company's fifth prototype.

In June this year, government officials from Beijing visited the maglev test line in Tangshan, Hebei Province. Liu Qi, party secretary general of the municipal committee, called repeatedly on other cities to follow Beijing's lead in adopting maglev transportation.



# Advocates condemn animal abuse on screen



What Gao said unwittingly aroused anger among animal lovers.



Horse tumbling down in a war scene in Gao's version of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*.

CFP Photos

By Wang Dong

Gao Xixi, director of the new TV adaptation of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, might have to withdraw his comments about the drama's animal actors.

In a video interview on 163.com last month, the director told the hosts about the fantastic war scenes in his version of the historical epic.

"I am very confident about the war scenes ... Six horses died during the shooting, while another eight went mad, so we had to buy new ones to replace

them. Even the horses couldn't stand it, so you can imagine what spectacular war scenes we've got," he said.

He also said some horses were badly burned in an explosion.

Gao's claims of animal abuse have ignited controversy among animal lovers. Mang Ping, an associate professor at the Central Institute of Socialism, wrote in *The Beijing News* on August 2 that the horse abuse is "stunning and intolerable."

"It's the most serious case of this kind I have ever seen!"

Mang said at a conference held by animal advocates last Thursday. "The director seems to show off the torture of horses to attract more viewers. It is an outrage."

Mang said he wondered why the producers did not use special effects to create such bloody scenes. "Do they have to kill a real horse for that effect? What if they want to film a man being killed?"

Gao has remained unavailable for comment. During another interview with *The Beijing News* on August 7, he said some horses were sick, and they had tried their

best to save the wounded ones.

*Three Kingdoms* is not the only drama accused of animal abuse. A horse that refused to jump off the cliff for one scene in the 1995 *Sorrow of Brook Steppe* was blindfolded and pushed off. In *Dog King*, produced in 1993, a specially trained army dog was strapped with bombs and blown apart while running recording.

The country has no laws that protect animals from cruelty, except for a handful of local regulations adopted by several provinces. This is in stark contrast to the US and UK, which have national laws regulating the treatment of animals in research, exhibition, transport and sale.

"Animal associations always supervise the use of animal actors used in movies and TV series there," Mang said. Most foreign movies contain a note to say, "No animals were harmed in the making of this film," she said.

One director had to find a dead worm to feed a bird instead of a living one while shooting *The Shawshank Redemption* because of strict rules by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

A draft of China's first law on animal protection will be submitted to the State Council by the end of the year. However, it was not on the legislative agenda (2008-2013) released by the National People's Congress Standing Committee. This suggests it will be many years before the draft becomes law.

"The absence of a law does not make it OK to be indifferent to animal cruelty," said Lu Di, head of the China Small Animal Protection Association.

Lu said it is important to teach people, especially children, to love animals and not treat them as props and tools. "It is a essential part of education," she said.

## Kindergartens are ordered to halt HB children screening

By Venus Lee

Kindergartens and nurseries will no longer be allowed to refuse admission to students with hepatitis B, according to a proposed regulation from the Ministry of Health.

The Policy, Law and Regulation Division of the ministry issued a draft on the management of kindergarten healthcare services that is open to feedback through Saturday. It will replace the current regulation, which took effect in December 1994 and did not require such institutions to admit children with hepatitis B.

The draft regulation, which applies to all kindergartens and nurseries hosting children six and younger, also requires them to report to medical authorities and enforce strict sterilization measures for infected children.

Children will have to present health records issued by authorized medical institutions on entry into nursery institutions, and their guardians will be

required to take them for treatment should they show symptoms of infectious disease.

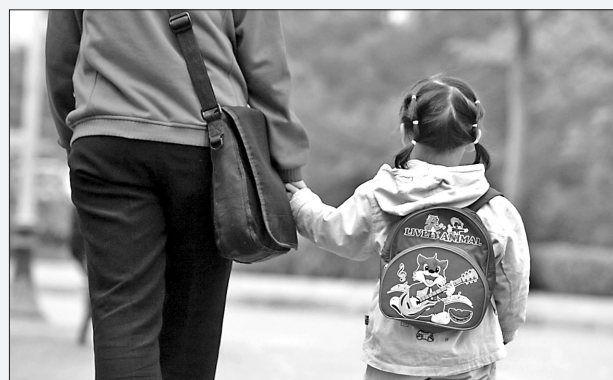
When they return to preschool, children will be required to show recovery documents. Those who leave for three or more months must present a new health check on return.

Many young hepatitis B virus carriers are rejected by kindergartens even though it is unusual for them to spread the illness to classmates, said Wang Zhao, vice-president of the China Foundation for Hepatitis Prevention and Control.

Kindergartens tend to reject the children because of pressure from other parents, said Yu Hui, the assistant of the headmaster of Yuxin Kindergarten in Haidian District.

Last November, 101 mothers solicited help in an open letter after their hepatitis B-positive children were rejected by kindergartens.

"I do welcome the long-awaited regulation which



Many HB children have been refused entry into the kindergarten because of the disease.

CFP Photo

would help remove discrimination against these children," Wang said.

Around 2 percent of children under age six have the illness. The country has nearly 100 million carriers.

Hepatitis B is transmitted through exposure to infected blood and is not transmitted casually, according to the World Health Organization. "Given the immunity screen established by wide inoculation among children and special transmission

channels, kindergartens have no reason to reject hepatitis B-positive children," she said.

However, public awareness remains low. Wu Yanwei, 29, an office clerk in Beijing, said she would transfer her 3-year-old son to another kindergarten if children with hepatitis B were detected at the one he attends.

"Kindergartens might reject the children citing other reasons," Li Yumei, a mother said, "The change won't come easy and definitely takes time."



# Top 10 power companies slammed by Greenpeace

By Venus Lee

A new report on carbon emissions by Greenpeace China names the top 10 electric power companies as the worst offenders and a driving force behind climate change.

Despite efforts to use renewable energy resources, the country's power grid relies heavily on coal.

While the statistics are real and shocking, the power companies say the report lacks the context to show how these top emitters are working to clean up their act.

## Scathing review

**"China's power industry, dominated by dirty coal-fired power plants, is the single biggest barrier to tackling climate change."**

On the beach of Yongding River, long dried up and choked with weeds, 18 volunteers open a huge yellow banner with the words "No Coal: Save the Climate." The organization's recent report "Polluting Power: Ranking China's Biggest Power Companies" was the first of its kind in China. It ranked the top 10 power companies on their greenhouse polluting performance to highlight the urgency for an energy revolution.

According to the report, the top 10 power companies used more than 590 million tons of coal – 20 percent of all production. Last year, this translated into 1.4 billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions. China Huaneng Group topped the list with 288 million tons of emissions – a carbon footprint greater than the total 2008 emissions in the UK.

"China's power industry, dominated by dirty coal-fired power plants, is the single biggest barrier to tackling climate change. The power industry must become as efficient as possible and must start aggressively switching over to renewable energy," said Greenpeace Climate Campaign Manager, Yang Ailun.

She said China's extreme weather, such as droughts, heat waves, typhoons and floods have all been worsened by climate



Greenpeace called on China's power companies to further reduce carbon emissions on the former beach of the Yongding River. CFP Photo

change. The power companies can and must help prevent disaster by rapidly increasing their efficiency and tapping into more renewable energy.

But the power sector is not moving fast enough; renewable energy developments have been few and far between.

According to the Renewable Energy Mid and Long Term Development Plan, by 2010, large power companies, including the top 10, should be generating 3 percent of their capacity from non-hydro renewable sources. "As of the end of last year, only one of those top 10 power companies reached the mandatory 3 percent. Admittedly that target doesn't have to be reached until 2010, but eight companies in the top 10 do not look like they can reach even this modest target – they're not even half way," she said.

"Climate change is the most urgent environmental problem. China's power companies are not only the top coal consumers but also the top carbon dioxide emitters. All levels of society must help move China away from coal dependence and these major polluters must not be exempt from responsibility," she said.

## Companies question the report

**"Their report is superficial. While the numbers are true and accurate, they fail to capture the context."**

"All the statistics were compiled from information made public by the State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC), China Electricity Council (CEC) and the power companies," Yang said. But she admitted Greenpeace never did any field investigation and never contacted the companies to "ensure the objectivity and independency of the report."

When Beijing Today phoned Datang Group, Lu Qi, vice director of management, scoffed at the report. "My company has long been performing well in carbon dioxide emission control, and our annual statistics for carbon dioxide emissions are good. How did they come to their conclusion?"

The media director of Huaneng Group whose surname is Li also expressed doubts, but gave no official comment.

"Their report is superficial. While the numbers are true and accurate, they fail to capture the context. We have never stopped working to reduce our carbon emis-

sions," said Li Junfeng, vice director of the Energy Research Institute of the National Development and Reform Commission.

Reliance on coal carries heavy economic, environmental and social costs. China is the world's largest producer and consumer of coal, and its rocketing economic growth depends on it for 70 percent of its energy needs. China is also the world's second largest producer and consumer of electricity, generating 3.4 million gigawatts last year – second only to the US.

"Greenpeace's conclusion is unreliable. China's power companies supply electricity to 1.3 billion people – the population of the UK is only half that of Henan Province. European countries depend on nuclear power and natural gas, so of course they have lower or no emissions. Scale alone makes a comparison to Europe impossible," he said.

One of the important measures that the Chinese government has taken to improve energy efficiency

is the forced closure of the country's least efficient coal-fired plants.

From 2006 through the first half of 2009, 54.07 gigawatts worth of the least efficient coal-fired plants have been closed down; this is more energy than the entire capacity of Australia. The move alone cut 110 million tons of carbon emissions. In the next three years, the government plans to close down another 31 gigawatts worth of coal-fired plants.

"By phasing out the least efficient coal power stations, the government can reduce coal consumption by 90 million tons per year. This would cut 220 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions," Yang said.

It is also quickly developing and generating electricity from new and renewable sources, especially wind power. China is the fourth largest wind energy producer in the world. Last year, it doubled its installed capacity for the fourth year in a row, moving up to 12.15 gigawatts.

## Low carbon economy still long off

**"Natural limitations will force coal-fired power to dominate the industry for years to come, even as new energy sources develop."**

Yang said the electricity sector has always been overly dependent

on coal. Recent years have seen the rapid growth of new plants capable of generating 100 gigawatts per year, but coal's market share remains unchanged.

"Greenpeace is calling on these power companies to reduce coal use and carbon dioxide emissions to improve the efficiency of coal-fired power plants, and to use a more renewable power source," Yang said.

But Li Junfeng said the situation is beyond the power companies' control. "China is rich in coal but has few gas and petroleum resources, which makes coal-fired plants the most effective way to generate power.

"Fossil-fired power accounts for more than 70 percent of the network's configuration," he said. "Natural limitations will force coal-fired power to dominate the indus-

try for years to come, even as new energy sources develop."

The domestic energy technology is also fairly backward compared to what is available in Europe. Countries are reluctant to export their more advanced, energy efficient technology to the developing world.

Li said hitting low carbon targets is even harder here, since the country is still in the process

of industrializing. The US and Europe, but contrast, are already fully industrialized.

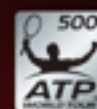
"A low carbon economy requires a lifestyle change. It doesn't depend on technology or economic development alone, it requires international cooperation," Li said.

"How to get there isn't just any one country's problem, it's a problem people of all nations must cooperate on."





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# First word on int'l A-share

## When will foreign companies be listed in China?



By Huang Daohen

It was once a taboo to have capitalism invade a socialist market, let alone having foreign companies listed on the domestic stock market, tapping into the nation's gigantic pile of household savings.

But it will happen.

Tu Shaoguang, Shanghai's vice mayor, said this week that overseas companies will be allowed to sell shares in China as early as next year.

Still, experts say the reform has a long way to go.

### Reform plan

#### A-share listing ahead

The Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE) will start an international board next year to allow foreign companies to go public on the Chinese mainland, Tu said.

Tu, former vice-chairman of the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC), said the board will be functioning as early as 2010.

The plan follows Shanghai's quest to become an international financial center by 2020. Though the government has not yet released rules on how foreign companies can sell their shares, it said it would eventually allow qualified foreign companies to list on the SSE. The SSE will publish detailed rules in the fourth quarter, according to Tu.

The first steps to create an international board began in 2007 amid rumors of foreign companies being able to list in Shanghai. The new announcement marks the first time the listings were given an official timeline.

#### Foreign firms prepare

Leading firms in the US, Europe and Japan are reportedly showing interest in the new board and preparing for initial public offerings (IPOs) in China.

Global banking giant HSBC is among the companies vying to be the first foreign company listed. The company confirmed last week that it had hired advisers for a possible offering.

However, an HSBC spokesman declined to comment on the report.

HSBC aside, a number of other foreign companies, including Hong Kong-based Hang Seng Bank, the Bank of East Asia and US household goods giant P&G have expressed an interest in listing in Shanghai, market sources said.

"A listing in Chinese mainland will provide an opportunity to access the country's massive deposits in the local currency," Wen Yijun, industrial analyst at Oriental Securities said.

Statistics show that by the end of 2008, China had over 27 trillion yuan in savings.

Listing in China will also help foreign firms promote awareness of their brands, Wen said.

### Voices

#### Businessmen say

Having a dual listing in the China market may seem to be a good bet for foreign companies, but Imbang Listiyadi, commercial attache to the Embassy of Indonesia in Beijing, said there was a caveat.

"When one Indonesian firm was dual-listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange the stock was rarely traded there, due to local Singaporean investors' lack of familiarity with it," he said.

However, he said Indonesian companies that have a presence in China, like Salim, Sinar Mas and Lippo, were unlikely to have that problem.

"Those companies may be more familiar to Chinese investors," Listiyadi said.

Jim O'Neill of the international investment bank Goldman Sachs said the move was a "very bold and ambitious step."

"When it happens, it could be a huge benefit to companies fearing dollar devaluation," he said.

#### Experts say

Foreign companies on the Chinese mainland will soon be permitted, at least in theory, to issue stocks and bonds in mainland markets.

I say "at least in theory" because companies, whether Chinese or foreign, still have to jump through a confusing number of hoops before they are allowed to list, and it is pretty easy for the authorities to prevent any company they want from raising money in the domestic securities markets.

Last week I was having lunch with the CEO of a US company and asked him if he was interested in raising money on the local stock markets. He said that he was considering doing it for some of his subsidiaries, but that it might take as long as a year between the application and the actual listing. It is not an easy process and, worse from a business point of view, it is not a predictable process.

Still, allowing foreign companies to

issue stocks and bonds on the mainland is a step in the right direction, although like all other major policies in China it is cursed with the ideology of gradualism.

First, by allowing high quality companies to list on domestic markets, the new measure is likely to improve the quality of companies and financial reports available to Chinese investors.

Second, increasing the supply of stock is a far better way to dampen the incipient bubble than the other.

Third, this clearly helps the development of Chinese financial markets by improving the professionalism of the issuance base and raising reporting and governance standards.

Finally, and most importantly, it may help the central bank, albeit only slightly, in managing monetary inflows.

—Michael Pettis, professor at Peking University's Guanghua School of Management. He specializes in Chinese financial markets.

Foreign firms with links to China have long awaited the chance to be listed.

CFP Photo

### Obstacles ahead

#### Free yuan convertibility

However, the launch of the new board faces several obstacles, of which when the yuan's convertibility in capital accounts is most problematic.

The State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) said it is working on drafting rules for conversion, but there was no timetable given as of press time.

Although it is the nation's long-term goal to make the yuan convertible, the reform must come gradually, said Hu Xiaolian, SAFE director, in a statement published on the administration's website.

It is convertible in trade, but is only partly convertible in the capital accounts, which include portfolio investments and foreign direct investments.

China has been promoting discussing the convertibility of the yuan in capital accounts in recent years. In 2005, foreign investors were allowed to invest in

the yuan-denominated A-share market through qualified foreign institutional investors (QFIIIs).

However, Hu said that the capital account convertibility of the yuan is a complicated systemic project. "The process needs to comply with China's economic development, macroeconomic controls, financial supervision capacity, financial market development and risk management capability of market players," she said.

#### Lack of laws and regulations

Besides, there is a lack of laws and regulations governing foreign companies that list in the domestic market, Wen said.

For example, whether foreign companies must establish representative offices in China and representative authority, how foreign companies should conduct foreign exchange for fundraising, whether fundraising placements need to be restricted and the supervision of fundraising for domestic investment.

### Editor's note

#### Who will be listed?

It's still too early to predict the detailed rules of the plan as authorities are working on it, but industrial analysts say the following overseas companies may make an IPO on the Chinese mainland.

— Those with a business link to China, like Coca-Cola, which has made several acquisitions in the soft drink industry, or Mexico's Gruma (GMK), which produces wraps used by all domestic KFC outlets

— Natural resource firms, like the Brazilian iron ore giant Vale

— Large financial institutions, like UBS and Goldman Sachs joint venture Goldman Sachs Gao Hua Securities



# Cursing in the Capital, bad for Beijing's image

By Han Manman

Jingma, literally "capital cursing," is a phenomenon that originated in soccer culture, and has once again proven the government's concern over the harm harsh words that can deal to do Beijing's image. Recent media reports said a foreign delegation withdrew a planned investment in a local company after they watched a soccer match in Beijing.



CFP Photos

Last Sunday's soccer match generated a controversy over whether Jingma is truly representation of local culture or just bad behavior by some fans.

Last Sunday, chants of "Niu bi! Niu bi!" and "Sha bi, Sha bi," echoed around the Workers' Stadium in Beijing, the birthplace of Beijing curse and home of the city's soccer team. Thousands of enthusiastic supporters of the Beijing Guo'an soccer team cheered for their heroes, and cursed their opponents – the Changsha Jinde team.

Jingma began shortly after China established its first professional soccer league in 1994. Since then the custom has spread to other cities, but curses from Beijing's soccer fans are notorious for their sting.

According to *Beijing News*, the American delegation attended the match because some of the members were soccer fans. However, they felt astonished by the cursing atmosphere.

The members left before the match finished and phoned the local company one hour later, stating that they were reconsidering their cooperation plan.

Two years ago, the government tried to tackle crude behavior ahead of the Olympics. A curser surnamed Hao who set up a website called "Beijing Curse Union" to promote a "curse culture" and goad Beijing soccer fans before each match, was detained and banned from the stadium for a year. Another five members of the "Union" were fined or given warnings.

However, no matter what the procedures are in place to prevent this behavior, the quiet soccer field quickly returned to its old ways after Beijing's Olympic Games.

## Comment

### Supporters

#### Cursing shows a love

*Jingma is part of Beijing's culture. We are also not always crude. It's only a way of speaking that's casual and free.*

*I know it is impolite to curse, but sometimes I just cannot help it. If the referees were fair, we wouldn't curse.*

*I think the cursing is not the reason for the delegation to withdraw the plan. If yes, I could only say they are stupid and do not understand Chinese culture. If they couldn't stand such a little thing, why are they doing business in China?*

– Zhang Jian, a soccer fan

#### A therapy for life annoyance

*Soccer matches have become a sort of therapy for me, and I guess for many other fans. Stadiums are some of the few public places we can truly let loose, yelling obscenities with impunity.*

*Believe it or not, I seldom curse. And if you asked them, all of my friends would say I am pretty polite.*

*But they don't know I also have a lot of pressure in my life, both at home*



拒绝京骂

Most fans say they do not use Jingma.

*and at work. Sometimes I go to a soccer match not just because I like soccer, but because I cannot think of any other way to find relief.*

*You can't understand the feeling of using all your energy to shout out and curse.*

– Li Xin, a computer engineer

### Opponent

#### Damage Beijing's reputation

*Beijing curses are a commonly heard insult on the streets, but when thousands of people in a stadium yell the phrase in unison, which includes a crude reference to the female anatomy, the effect is rather unsettling.*

– Charles Fombrun, a tourist from Britain

#### They are scared by local value

*The delegation was not shocked by the curses, but by the value orientation and state of mind showed by tens of thousands fans. They cursed not only when they felt the referees' made a bad call – they cursed even when the rival team performed well, from the beginning to the end.*

*It's easy to understand why the delegation felt shocked.*

– Xu Yongbo, a blogger

## Comment

### Hard to root out

*Ten years ago, our association discussed the jingma problem with various media organizations to try and find a solution, but there has never been a solution.*

*In fact, it is not only foreigners who are shocked when they see a soccer match in China, many Chinese also feel shocked. Our association has received more and more complaints in recent years, with fewer and fewer parents taking their children to watch the match fearing that they will adopt the crude behavior themselves.*

*I do not think the phenomenon of jingma*

*is representative of the whole nation, rather it reflects a tiny portion of people in a specific setting. Since there are few places for people to relieve pressure, the soccer field seems to present itself as an ideal place.*

– Wang Wen, chairman of the Beijing Sports Fans Association

#### A dangerous trend

*Incidents of soccer-related violence are growing throughout China. In fact, China has a national group of soccer hooligans like the Beijing Curse Union. If we do not take the phenomenon seriously, it will become a big problem in the future.*

– Zhang Qingzhi, a critic

#### Find an alternative way

*The government needs to find an alternative to Jingma. I hope fans can be persuaded to sing songs, watch cheerleaders and chant more family-friendly slogans instead of yelling curses.*

*We should learn from Europe. Why not create special fans' song? I appeal to composers and lyricists to come up with a good song, something everyone can sing, as long as the notes aren't too high.*

– Wang Zheng, professor from Hunan University



# Back in the saddle again

By Jin Zhu

Megan Lewis, a 60-year-old Welsh rider made famous for her attempt at an 8,000 kilometer horse ride from Beijing to London, resumed her journey on August 6 after four months in recovery following an accident eight days after she embarked in April.

Accompanied by two Chinese riders, the journey began in Guyuan, Hebei Province, not far from where she fell from her horse.

The ride is to carry a goodwill message from Beijing to London, which will host the 2012 Olympics.

"It's an Olympic odyssey, so I could not give up. I went back to where I had fallen down and started again," Megan said.

In the accident, Megan had fractured her clavicle and four ribs. After receiving medical treatment in Beijing, she returned to Britain.

"I got a letter from Megan in June, who told me that she had begun to swim as part of her recovery. It was then that I realized that we would start the journey again soon," Li Jing, a Chinese-Russian adventurer who accompanied Megan during the ride, said.

"She was an iron-willed and unyielding lady. I was totally moved by her determination, and that is the reason I decided to



Megan's ride in China will be finished early next year and the whole ride will take four years.

Photo by Wutzala

accompany her to finish the ride," he said.

The horse Megan rode when she had her accident has been replaced.

"Megan quite enjoyed the feeling of traveling on horseback and usually took in all sights in a leisurely way. Therefore, we must pay more attention to her safety during the remainder of the ride," Li said.

According to the basic route, after leaving Beijing, the riders will head for Gansu Province and the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Then they will traverse Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, passing north of the Caspian and Black Seas and through Europe.

"Since the accident happened and the schedule has been delayed, the ride through China will be finished

early next year instead of the end of this year as was previously planned," he said.

There will be some large areas of wasteland and desert during the future ride. For such remote areas, they expect many difficulties, Megan said.

"It would be hard to find people and carry food and water for both riders and horses. There-

fore, we will purchase a motor home for carrying and transporting food and fodder," she said.

At present, two riders and a volunteer are accompanying her. "Any horse riders interested in the journey are welcome to join in," Megan said.

"We will not stop riding until we arrive at the final destination," she said.

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# Italy needs to know more about modern China



Riccardo Sessa  
Photo provided by Italian Embassy

By He Jianwei

Next year will be the Year of China in Italy.

"I would like for China to introduce more about its modern times to the Italian people," Riccardo Sessa, ambassador of Italy, said last Thursday at the embassy.

In recent years, Chinese cultural delegations have brought many performances and exhibitions to Italy. But they seldom know about modern China.

"I hope we can not only see the past glorious history, but also can see the current China, which is open and modern," he said.

Sessa said China and Italy are both in ancient civilizations and the relations date back 2,000 years.

"When I visit the Forbidden City, I could touch the long history of China and have a feeling of walking in ancient Rome," he said.

Yet the ambassador wants more attention to be paid to modern cultural exchange between the countries.

Last Saturday, the Italian Super Cup was held at the National Stadium. It was the first time it was held in Beijing and fourth time

outside of Italy. "It is a great opportunity to spread Italian soccer culture," he said.

For the match there was a line written in Chinese on the T-shirts of Lazio's athletes which said: "You are looking forward to Rome." A good example of how the two countries are combining sports with tourism as a means of showing support for one another.

In 2009, a modern Chinese writer, Mo Yan was invited to Rome to film a documentary titled. A Passage to Rome – Touring Diary of Mo Yan. The documentary was shown last Thursday afternoon at the embassy. "Mo has many readers both in China and Italy. He is the best ambassador to bridge our countries," he said.

Currently, Italy is the first destination among European countries for Chinese tourists. "Ninety percent of them start their trip from Rome," he said.

Sessa believes China has developed rapidly in the past two decades, but that "the future Sino-Italian relations are based on better understanding of the modern cultures," he said.

## Mexican embassy holds special exhibition

By Zhao Hongyi

On Thursday, August 6 the Mexican Embassy in Beijing opened *Colors of the Wind*, an exhibition whose works were created by a special group of Mexicans – those with Down syndrome. The exhibition's opening drew hundreds of Chinese visitors and many more are expected prior to its closing on August 23.

The exhibition consists of works from the disabled, including oil paintings, linocuts and lithographs.

"The exhibition shows that people with disabilities have the same talents and capabilities as the normal people," said Mexican ambassador Jorg Guajardo. "It reminds us of the respect and communication necessary with people that are different from us."

The exhibition is organized by the Mexican School John Langdon Down founded in 1972 with the mission to provide education and support to people with Down syndrome and their families.

"In the same year, Mexico established diplomatic relations with China," Guajardo said. "So it is an excellent way to foster bilateral relations in culture and education."

China has more than 10 million mentally disabled people, including those with Down syndrome, according to Zhang Baolin, executive director of the Chinese Association for People with Special Needs and Their Families.

"The exhibition tells us that as long as we provide the same platform and space for these people, they can create the same wonderful works as people who are not disabled," Zhang said. "It's also important for those with disabilities to create."



People who suffer from Down syndrome making their own handcrafts. Photo provided by Mexican embassy

Supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the exhibition has toured around North America and

Europe, where it received a warm welcome and additional financial support.

The exhibition is free and

is open from 9 am-4 pm every day Monday through Friday in the Mexican Embassy until August 23.

## Indian embassy clarifies media protectionist claims

By Han Manman

Indian embassy in Beijing recently denied reports by Chinese media about India engaging in anti-Chinese protectionist measures amid fears that the reports could make it difficult for the two countries to hold sane and dispassionate negotiations in the business field.

The embassy said in a statement that the country has not imposed any restrictions on Chinese goods. It is the first time the embassy released such a statement to counter Chinese media claims.

Indian exports to China in the first six months of 2009 stood at 45 billion yuan, a decline of 50 percent compared to the same period last year. On the other hand, Chinese exports to India in this period stood at 92 billion yuan, which was a slowdown of only 16 percent, according to the statement.

Chinese exports to India have grown tenfold while Indian exports to China has risen five fold in the past five years, C. Naik, Indian embassy second secretary said, adding, "This can not happen in an environment of protectionism or trade barriers."

"In fact, the bilateral trade has been increasing and the rate of growth of Chinese exports to India has been maintaining a steady pace. In 2008, the growth rate of Chinese exports to India stood at 31.21 percent, which was highest in the top 10 destinations of Chinese exports," Naik said.

According to the statement, the anti-dumping cases that India has initiated against China have been taken as per procedures enshrined in national laws, which applied uniformly to all countries.

"Indian regulations apply uniformly and are not China specific," Naik said.

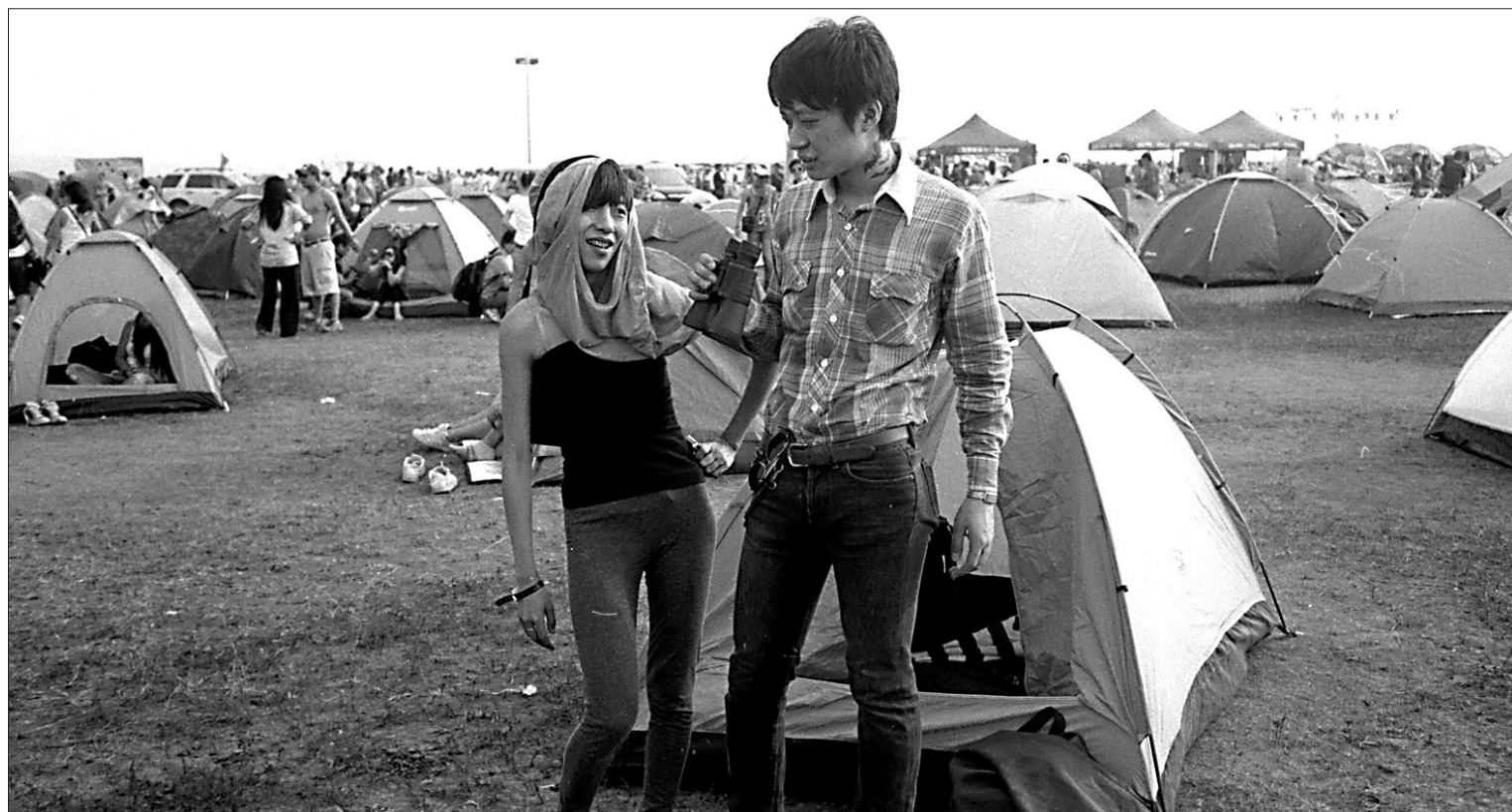
He said anti-dumping investigations have not hindered the bilateral trade and are merely an instrument for ensuring fair trade in accordance with international laws.

The embassy statement also expressed concerns about access of its agricultural products to the Chinese market.

"During the meeting of the two sides early this year, the Chinese side had assured that relevant technical teams would be sent from China and specific progress would be seen soon. However, no progress has been seen with regard to giving market access to the Indian fruits and vegetables market," Naik said.



# The first InMusic Festival concludes with mixed responses



Hundreds of people camping out in tents at the Zhangbei InMusic Festival.

Photo by heymy

By Wang Yu

Following three days' of blasting rock 'n' roll tunes on Zhangbei grassland, the first year of the InMusic Festival came to an end. However, the festival's reception was mixed, receiving as much complaining as it did praise.

The concert series, which kicked off last Friday afternoon peaked with the punk band Subs's performance. The band never wavered in raising the audience's energy and passion until lead singer, Kangmao, was prevented by confused security guards from leaping off-stage and body surfing.

The bands Rebuilding the Rights of Statues and the popular New Pants also helped build the crowd's momentum. The pop and rock star Xu Wei performed the finale to crowds of adoring fans.

More people arrived on Saturday, however, that was when problems on stage became apparent. The sound check began late and took so long that the show was delayed for three hours.

Fortunately, the bands did not lose

their patience. The charming Fu Han, lead singer of Queen Sea Big Shark, knew how to cheer up the listeners with her wild rock antics. Then there was Joyside's 1970s style singer, Bianyuan, moving the massive crowds with his saturnine voice. The reputable Zuoxiao Zuhou, while more of an artist than a singer or musician, wowed them with "Zuoxiao time," the highlight of Day Two.

It was 3 am when Zhang Xuan, the pop singer from Taiwan finished her performance. But traffic quickly became another problem. The official shuttles were too few to take the audience back to Beijing. Sun Yi, a freelance photographer, was left in the venue and had to stay the night in a friend's tent. Some others had to rent private buses to Zhangbei county and then look for hotels, which took advantage of the chance to price gouge the crowds.

"We drove our own car here which took us about six hours. The audience members who took the shuttle took even longer," said Cai Jingzhou, a music fan

who joined the audience with his colleague from a sport company. "I have to say the organization is so unprofessional. Some people drove their cars out of the park area near the crowd and there was no one to stop them. Think about how dangerous that would be if they were driving drunk?"

Many chose to camp in the venue but their preparations proved insufficient. Nighttime on the grassland is cold and there was little provided to help people stay warm. The few public toilets were far from the camp.

But a huge number of fans stayed. The grunge rocker, Xie Tianxiao, was one of the best of the last day. Xie finished an already dramatic set by smashing his guitar in true rock n' roll fashion. When the British Trip-hop giant Tricky went on stage at midnight, there were fewer than 1,000 people left. But his brilliant performance left the audience enraptured.

Some angry audience members started to complain about the bad organization

on the Internet even before the festival came to its end. Li Hongjie, chief editor of *InMusic*, the festival's organizer, admitted that the preparation and organization could be improved upon. However, he also explained that the audience should prepare for camping like the music fans do at outdoor festivals in Europe and North America. Zhangbei county, he argued, was too small to offer accommodation for tens of thousand of people.

"It was quite hectic, but I had fun anyway. There's nothing really broken here that can't be fixed. A little experience and a lot more organization could make this music festival a highlight for many summers to come," said Lisa Liang, music editor of a local English magazine *The Beijinger*.

As many new music festivals have been established in recent years, local governments are also realizing that hosting such events is a good method of self-promotion. However, festivals exhibiting true signs of professionalism are still rare.

## Fight against climate change with OHK

By Wang Dong

Oxfam Hong Kong (OHK), an international development organization that works against poverty, held a series of workshops this week, as a part of its "I DO" campaign.

With the slogan of "Fight against Climate Change and Fall in Love with Zero Poverty" the campaign started late last month in Beijing to raise public awareness of poverty issues resulting from global climate change.

During July and August, the general public is invited to compete to become "I DO Ambassadors." To win the competition, candidates have to submit innovative Climate-Poverty-related promotion materials which consist of writings, paintings and music.

Workshops began this past Monday and focused on brainstorming creative



Oxfam Hong Kong's workshop

Photo by Wang Dong

ideas and inspiring participants with their works.

Participants from different backgrounds were asked to share stories, draw pictures and act in a play on Monday's workshop.

"It takes thirty years of hard work to build a home, but only one night to

vanish," said Wang Luji, a NGO official from Sichuan Province. He told a story about his hometown. "A lot of people are forced to earn their livings in big cities as their houses were damaged by mudslides," he said.

In another play, participants played a sad scene showing how people have been affected by terrible drought.

This round of the competition is being promoted in conjunction with gongyi.sohu.com and bbs.ifeng.com. Netizens are also encouraged to take part in the competition.

"Climate change is a global problem, and everyone is part of it, so it requires everyone's effort," Li Ning, an official at OHK, said during Monday's workshop.

Founded in 1976, OHK is an independent international development and humanitarian organization working

against poverty and related injustices. It works directly with communities and seeks to influence the powerful to ensure that poor people can improve their lives and have a say in decisions that affect them.

OHK has been responding to increasing numbers of very serious droughts and floods in recent years and have also been helping poor communities to adapt, such as improving flood defenses or drought resistant farming techniques.

The ambassadors chosen will be arranged to visit villages in Gansu, Sichuan and Yunnan provinces, which have been adversely affected by climate change, then write a report about their experience.

The workshops will also be held this Friday and Saturday. For more information, please visit: [oxfam.org.cn/ido/](http://oxfam.org.cn/ido/).



# Sommeliers in China so new and so few



Emerging Chinese wine lovers taking courses at Dragon Phoenix Fine Wine Consulting

Photo provided by Fongyee Walker

By Annie Wei

The first China National Sommelier Competition final was held in Shanghai last month. Hans Qu of the International Hotel in Shenzhen, took the top spot and Vivian Tian, of the Kee Club in Shanghai took second. Both will go to Osaka for the Asia-Pacific competition organized by the Association Sommelier Internationale (ASI) in November.

Qu, 29, originally from Harbin, Heilongjiang Province, impressed everyone after the competition. He was the only person who flew himself from Shenzhen to Beijing to participate.

In fact, Qu heard about the competition by chance. One day he was introducing wine at a hotel event when he met a Frenchman who was also a wine sponsor, who forwarded him the competition information.

"It was a great opportunity," Qu said. With eight years of experience as a bartender and five years as a sommelier, Qu said that he felt himself all alone in learning wine in Shenzhen, as he knew no other Chinese sommelier there but himself.

## Sommelier? Grape consulting? What is that?

Indeed, people know very little about what being a sommelier truly entails. It is not just someone who pours and samples wines. The work of a sommelier, and their knowledge of wines, is much more extensive, meaning they provide expertise in the area of wine procurement, storage, wine cellar rotation and guidance to customers.

"When we first registered our company in Beijing in early 2008, the authorities did not know what it was," said Fongyee Walker, 37, who is half Chinese and half British, and founder of Dragon Phoenix Fine Wine Consulting, one of the three organizations that provide wine training courses in Beijing.

Over the past two years wine's popularity in China has been on the rise, yet sommeliers remain unknown to most. "A lot of people here think that they are wine



Hans Qu hopes more chances to chat with other Chinese sommeliers.

Photo provided by Hans Qu

experts just because they went to France and they think they know about wine," Walker said.

"You would be surprised how few five-star hotels have certified sommelier," Walker said, giving the names of some places that had good wine and cared about providing professional service, including having certified sommelier, like JW Marriott, Hilton and Legation Quarter 23.

## Wine education matters

Tommy Lam, a certified wine specialist, sommelier and WSET trainer and organizer of the competition, talked to local blogger Jim Boyce about why he decided to hold the event.

Lam said the Chinese market has attracted many people who sell wines, but education has not been high on the agenda in most cases. Training a local sommelier plays an important role in encouraging consumer interest in wine.

Walker and her husband decided to

start their company in Beijing because wine was growing in popularity, but the relevant wine training was rare.

When Fongyee Walker studied ancient Chinese at Cambridge, UK, there were many wine clubs on the campus. She learned and taught wine classes there for many years. When she did her one year study abroad at Tsinghua University, she fell in love with the city.

So far, she has over 200 students learning beginner and medium level courses. The company also provides wine training or tasting events to other organizations, like banks and hotels.

Walker said potential wine consumers in China are under 35-40 years old. She has been volunteering in a wine tasting class every semester at China Agriculture University. She even wrote requests to wine companies for free samples and received enough to supply classes for 150 students.

## Difficulties for sommeliers

When asked about the obstacles for a Chinese person learning to be a sommelier, Walker said that she thought Chinese people learn about wine much more quickly than British because of the local gourmet culture. "Chinese people love food and talk a lot about food. One example is the acidity, in Chinese daily cooking, they talk a lot about whether the food is too sour or too sweet," Walker said.

But how to describe wine according to an international standard proves difficult for locals. Take the smell for exam-

ple, many smells are universal like leather and black pepper. But fruits are harder because some typical fruits like blackberry and raspberry are very foreign to Chinese.

Although English is not a problem for Walker's students now, other languages like Italian, German and French are still difficult.

"To enhance their experience or tour the vineyards in other countries, I think they should learn how to speak to them because they need to communicate with vineyards," Walker said.

Tommey Lam, the competition organizer said that there were a few obstacles Chinese sommeliers face. Apart from their English language skills, there is the need for proper sources of wine knowledge. Many education programs are conducted by wine importers or distributors, but few have trainers with adequate knowledge. Proper wine education should be provided by an outside source. Many sommeliers jump from job to job, but by staying in one spot is how they can gain experience, knowledge and skills that lead to jobs such as cellar master or food and beverage director.

Hans Qu said English or French might be difficult for Chinese sommeliers, but expat sommeliers face their own issues. Many hotels hire expat sommeliers due to lack of certified Chinese ones. "If they do not speak Chinese and do not know Chinese culture well enough, it's also hard for them to communicate and service local consumers," Qu said.

## Sommelier club needed

To advance in a country with fewer opportunities and learn about wine, one must make an additional effort.

Qu said he flew to Beijing once or twice a year to take part in courses. He also went to Hong Kong on his days off to buy wine books.

Now he is the fourth person certified to teach sommeliers in Asia and one of 58 globally of his kind.

"I hope there will be sommelier club in China and for us to exchange experience."

## Places with professional wine courses

### Eswine

Where: 23-B, Kenzo Plaza, 48 Zhongzhimen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District  
Tel: 5139 6036  
Web site: eswine.com

### ASC - fine wine

Where: 7th floor, Block D, The Place No.9 Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District  
Tel: 6587 3808

### Web site: asc-wines.com

### Dragon Phoenix Fine Wine Consulting

An independent wine consulting company provides serious WSET certificates.

Where: 2601, Building 5, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang District  
Tel: 5960 4050  
Web site: longfengwines.com



# Classical's future in

## Lucerne Festival arrives in Beijing

By He Jianwei

At 7:30pm Wednesday, in the central Switzerland city Lucerne, 22-year-old Chinese pianist Yuja Wang and 76-year-old Italian conductor Claudio Abbado cooperated in the opening concert of the Lucerne Festival.

Classical music fans who missed the concert will have another chance to hear it in September at the National Center for the Performing Arts (NCPA). Many Chinese musicians have become major players on the festival's stage. Tan Dun, a Chinese composer-conductor who straddles the boundary between East and West, will take up the baton of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra.



Tan Dun (top), a Chinese composer-conductor who straddles the boundary between East and West, will take up the baton of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. Yuja Wang (right), a 22-year-old pianist, performed at the opening concert at this year's Lucerne Festival. Photos provided by the National Center for Performing Arts



### Performing schedules

#### Chamber Concert by Lucerne Festival Orchestra Musicians

When: September 20, 11 am  
Admission: 100-480 yuan  
Lucerne Festival Orchestra Concert  
Conductor: Claudio Abbado  
Piano Solo: Yuja Wang  
When: September 20-21, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 280-1,280 yuan

#### Mahler Chamber Orchestra Concert

Conductor: Tan Dun  
Violin: Kolja Blacher  
Viola: Wolfram Christ  
When: September 23, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 100-580 yuan

#### Lucerne Festival Orchestra Concert

Conductor: Claudio Abbado  
Soprano: Rachel Carlson  
When: September 24-25, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 280-1,280 yuan  
Where: Concert Hall of National Center for the Performing Arts, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng District  
Advance booking at [chncpa.org](http://chncpa.org)  
Tel: 6655 0000



# in the East

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Claudio Abbado do returning to China for the first time in 36 years.

The annual Lucerne Festival, Europe's leading festival for classical music, dates back to the 1930s and Beijing is the sixth destination in its history. Founded in Lucerne in 2003 by Abbado and festival director Michael Haefliger, the Lucerne Festival Orchestra brought the music to Rome, Tokyo, the BBC Proms, New York and Vienna from 2005 to 2008.

Tan said his first impression of the Lucerne Festival was beautiful landscapes: babbling brooks, birdsongs, the seasons and the vagaries of weather translated into music.

"Nature is our example. Just as it caused the whole universe to develop from the primeval cell, so music should spring from one single motif to produce a larger sound mosaic, one single motif containing the seed of everything that will be," Gustav Mahler said.

"Like the sounds of nature," is Mahler's instruction that starts the score of his First Symphony, the work that opened the festival conducted by Abbado and the Lucerne Festival Orchestra.

As a composer, Tan said Mahler influenced him deeply. "His music is romantic, profound and soul-stirring. It inspires my creation," he said.

Tan's first collaboration with Switzerland's orchestras dates back to 1995. He conducted the Swiss orchestra in Paris when it played Chinese music. "At that time, I hoped to bring a Swiss orchestra to China. Today, the dream will come true," he said.

Besides his own works, Tan has included pieces from three other composers including Franz Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Toru Takemitsu.

2009 is the bicentennial of Haydn's death, and almost every orchestra has performed his work to commemorate the "Father of Symphony."

Mozart's Symphony Concertos For Violin and Viola K 364 show a musician's skills. "In Mahler's Chamber Orchestra, every member must be an excellent soloist. It's not common in other top orchestras," he said.

The first half is Tan's homage to Western classical music composers, but in the second half, the concert belongs to Eastern musicians.

When the members of Mahler Chamber Orchestra heard they would perform in Beijing, they asked Tan to select some pieces by Asian composers. Tan looked to

another influential composer – Takemitsu.

Takemitsu invited Tan to Japan in the early of 1990s and helped Tan collaborate with NHK (Nippon Hoso Kyokai), a major broadcaster. "Takemitsu is my Stravinsky. It's Igor Stravinsky who invited Takemitsu to New York in 1958, which brought Takemitsu international attention," Tan said.

Before Takemitsu became world famous, he made soundtracks for 50 Akira Kurosawa films.

Tan also earned international fame for his Grammy and Oscar-award winning scores for the movies *Crouching Tiger*, *Hidden Dragon* and *Hero*.

**"When we talk about the violin, we think of Italy. When we talk about the horn, we think of France. And I can say with confidence that when we talk about percussion, we think of China."**

"Both of us are interested in composing music using the sounds of nature. I think the reason is that in our philosophy we believe in the harmony between man and nature," he said.

He won the Glenn Gould Prize Protégé in 1996, aided by Laureate winner Takemitsu's nomination. The prize goes only to an outstanding young musician expected to make exceptional contributions to the art.

But Tan's award was almost lost. Takemitsu died in 1996 before the prize foundation received his nomination. At that time, most media reported there would be no 1996 Glenn Gould Prize Protégé.

Three days after Takemitsu's death, his family found a letter written to the prize foundation to recommend Tan as the recipient.

For the concert, Tan selected three pieces by Takemitsu.

The concert ends with Tan's latest work, "The Sound of the Earth." The piece was inspired by Mahler's "The Song of the Earth." "[He] admitted that he was influ-

enced by Li Bai, a great Chinese poet in Tang Dynasty (618-907). The best way to connect Mahler with China and Chinese audiences is to re-illuminate the relation between Mahler and Li," he said.

Mahler conceived of the work in 1908 after he read Li's poetry translated into German. He was taken by the visions of earthly beauty and transience expressed in these verses and integrated four of Li's poems in a symphonic song cycle.

Tan borrowed the names from Mahler's chapters, and toured six Chinese cities famous for producing pottery to have 100 clay instruments made.

"Because pottery is made from earth and different pottery can make different sound, I can recognize where each was produced according to its sound," he said.

China is the home of percussion. When he was doing research for his opera in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, the director of the Shaanxi History Museum told him the instruments of "the orchestra" were first made 2,000 years ago from clay.

Tan took it as a joke until the director showed him an article written by Li Si (280 BC-208 BC), an influential Prime Minister in Qin Dynasty (221 BC-206 BC).

"Chinese percussion instrument influenced Western classical music. The gong has become an important member of the percussion section of all modern symphony orchestras," Tan said.

The story of the gong's introduction to Europe occurred in the 16th century, off the coast of Guangdong Province when someone struck a gong as a British ship was about to leave. The businessman heard it and asked the name of the instrument.

"The merchant not only brought Chinese tea to Britain and Europe, but also spread the name of a Chinese percussion instrument," he said.

Tan said his Academy Award was given primarily because of how he uses percussion in his scores. "When we talk about the violin, we think of Italy. When we talk about the horn, we think of France. And I can say with confidence that when we talk about percussion, we think of China," he said.

Tan's works have been performed by 10 famous conductors already, and he has collaborated with every top orchestra. "China's classical music is becoming international, and the future of Western classical music is in the East," he said.





# The men who knew which way the wind blew

By Charles Zhu

Many remember the controversy started by reports about the ties between US President Barack Obama and his former neighbor William Ayers, leader of the underground Weatherman, before the election.

Mark Rudd, another Weatherman leader, recalls his days with this underground group and expresses regrets in *Underground. My Life With SDS and the Weatherman* (324pp, William Marrow/HarperCollins Publishers, \$25.99).

The book offers inside stories from the group, insight into the inner workings of the student movement of the 1960s and into the personality of one of its leaders.

Rudd who lives in obscurity as a community college math teacher in New Mexico, is full of "guilt and shame" as he describes himself at the beginning of the book, which opens with "My mother."

"I hope my story helps them (the young idealists who helped Obama get elected) figure out what they can do to build a more just and peaceful world," Rudd writes.

The Weatherman Underground, named for a line in Bob Dylan's "Subterranean Homesick Blues," was a faction of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), the radical anti-war group. In 1969, the Weathermen believed that America would never stop its invasion of Vietnam. Rather, it was up to them – a few dozen kids – to act on behalf of the Vietnamese people by placing small bombs in sensitive places like the Capitol and the Pentagon.

"Much of what the Weathermen did had the opposite effect of what we intended. We damaged the SDS while we claimed we were making it stronger; we isolated ourselves from our friends and allies as we helped split the larger anti-war movement around the issue of violence," Rudd writes.

In his book, he describes the triumphant student occupation of the office of Columbia University's president in April 1968. His first move after this take-over was to call home. "We took a building," he told his father, a retired lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve and a real estate investor. "Well, give it back," his father replied. When he was thrown out of Columbia, his parents did not desert him. They came to see him with home-made veal parmigiana for a picnic in the family car.

Rudd has an extraordinary sense for telling details. He recalls the formation of the Weathermen in 1969, and the explosion that killed three of his friends in a Greenwich Village town house in 1970. He also describes his friendship with a black guard at Columbia. As he was leading a group of protesters to clash with security guards on campus, Rudd recalls, one of the guards, an older black man with whom he was friendly, "touched my arm lightly, 'Mark, Mark, what are you doing?' His gentle reproach snapped something inside me, and I immediately put my hands down, pulled back and told others on the frontline to do likewise. The confrontation stopped."

The author recalls in detail the spring-time campus uprisings, heated discussions under the campus trees about strategies to stop the Vietnam War amidst music, dancing and drugs.

*The New York Times* reported that a Columbia administrator called Rudd "totally unscrupulous and morally very dangerous ... an adolescent having a temper

tantrum." This image of him became the model of the student rebels of the 1960s.

Rudd was indicted for his role in the Weatherman campaign, and spent years on the run as a fugitive. His parents tried to arrange secret meetings with him and passed him cash. After his father bailed him out of prison on one occasion, Rudd told his father, "You always worked hard ... You did what needed to be done ... Well, I'm the same as you, in my own way: I'm doing what needs to be done."

He cautions today's activists to learn from the mistakes of the 1960s. However, few opposed to the war in Iraq think like Mark Rudd and his Weathermen. Perhaps times have changed.



MY LIFE WITH SDS AND THE WEATHERMEN

## UNDERGROUND

### MARK RUDD

## History's lost generation

By He Jianwei

The 1960s and 1980s were two periods of tremendous change: the '60s, with the Cultural Revolution, and the '80s with China's opening.

The decade in between was an easily forgotten transition period.

*The Decade of the 1970s* (585pp, SDX Joint Publishing Company, 42 yuan), edited by Bei Dao and Li Tuo, is a collection of stories from 30 people who grew up during that time. They and their representative groups became the most active, energetic and the most controversial and concerned people of the last century.

The book "originates from a mass recollection and lets the speakers talk about their experiences and the historical environment in which they lived," Li writes.

The 1970s was a time of finishing and preparing for a new age. "It was like a short rest or a heavy breath between two storms," he writes.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, millions of urban youth were sent to the mountains and farming towns to learn from the people under Down to the Countryside Movement.

In the book, some of these youth recall hard days in the villages – hard farm work and homesickness. But others remember the deep friendships with other youth and villagers. Xu Bing, vice president of the Central Academy of Fine Art, wrote that the villagers he stayed with

treated him as a native son.

In 1971, Lin Biao, military leader and second-in-command to Mao Zedong, died in a plane crash in Mongolia. His death and the trial of Jiang Qing marked the end of the Cultural Revolution.

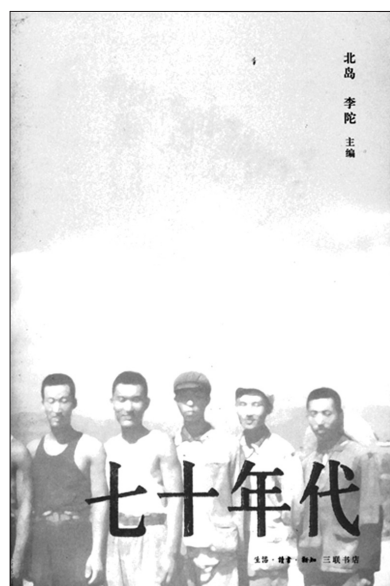
A year later, US president Richard Nixon visited China and the Chinese ping pong team visited the US. "[The documentary of the team's visit] was the first time I saw skyscrapers and the achievements of modernization," Chen Danqing, an oil-painter, who stayed in New York from 1980 to 1999, said.

The year of 1976 was the most disastrous year of the 1970s. In January, Premier Zhou Enlai died. In July, Zhu De, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, passed away. Only 22 days later, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake killed many people in Tangshan, Hebei Province. In September, Mao Zedong died.

"Uncertainty haunted everyone's mind after Mao's death. What was the future of China?" Chen writes.

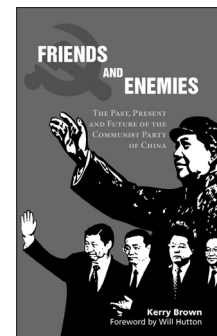
Although readers can trace recent Chinese history in the stories, the experiences recorded are more personal than panoramic. Bei Dao writes of the death of his sister in 1976, who died trying to save a little girl drowning in a river. He almost killed himself after reading her obituary.

The decade was their youth, but for the generations since, it in many ways remains an unfamiliar and forgotten age.



## Bookworm book listing

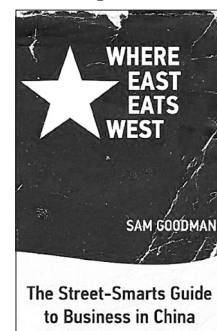
Vivian Wang from the Bookworm recommends the following best sellers to *Beijing Today* readers.



### Friends and Enemies

By Kerry Brown, 224pp, Anthem Press, US \$24.95

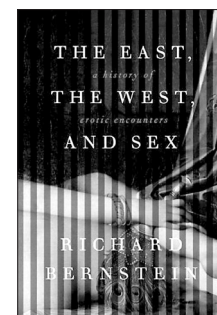
Delivering a lucid and provocative history of one of the world's largest and most successful political organizations, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). Brown charts its early struggles and the emergence of the leadership of Mao Zedong in the 1930s, before unraveling the role of the Party during World War II and the civil war that culminated in the CCP's ascent to power in 1949.



### Where East Eats West

By Sam Goodman, 274pp, Book-Surge Publishing, US \$18.99

Already part of the MBA curriculum for Boston College, Rutgers and Colorado State University and winning praise by China veterans, *Where East Eats West* uses Goodman's unparalleled experience to boil down the China business basics into fun, easy-to-digest lessons so that readers do not have to risk making rookie mistakes.



### The East, the West, and Sex

By Richard Bernstein, 336pp, Knopf, US \$27.95

Richard Bernstein defines the East as consisting of northern Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the Pacific Islands and frames it as a place where sexual pleasure was not commonly associated with sin, as it was in the West. His rogue historical analysis of sex in the East postulates that its sexual culture offered the Western men who came as conquerors and traders thrilling but morally ambiguous opportunities unavailable at home.

(By He Jianwei)



# Creating new looks from the past

By Wang Yu

Fashion and style are not the same if you ask Nels Frye, an American blogger who seeks out and features Beijing's most creative dressers.

Some young Beijingers are tired of being walking promotions for whatever is hot this season—something the older crowd relishes in with their brand name bags and commercial logos.

Young stylish people comb the flea markets for help, where a young man can find a woman's suit from the 1980s for 30 yuan: something that can be easily refashioned as a Dior Homme style outfit. It is not just a way to save money, but to stand out on the street.

Zhang Qiubiao, 26, creative director of an advertising company, works hard, buys hard, talks straight and is enthusiastic about old products. She is the epitome of the young media artist. "The T-shirt I'm wearing cost 3 yuan and the skirt was only 1 yuan. All from the flea market," Zhang says.

People in her office are all about the same age and are looking for ways to find fun at work. The creative team usually poses in front of the balcony in their latest threads.

"They call me a 'pretty middle-aged girl,' but I'm not that old at all," Zhang says.

Like most office workers, she has to wear "formal" clothes at work.

But company policy rarely trumps the designers' desire to stand out. In one balcony photo, Zhang poses in a slim-fitting dark-brown woolen suit with a pair of the long trousers popular in China in the 80s. The vintage sunglasses complete her getup as "Blind Abing," an erhu player well-known from the 1930s.

"Many people like these clothes. I found a similar getup in the flea market for 5 yuan, but it was made for children," Zhang says. She was introduced to fashion at a flea

market in Dajiaotingqiao by some friends and was soon deep into second-hand clothes.

There were so many floral skirts and second-hand bags at least 10 years old. "I can't define my style: It just follows my desire to be unique. I was into heavy metal during college, but most dress in styles that reflect the music we listen to. Skinny pants have always been my favorite—I love to find new value in old things," she says.

Sun Lu, 25, a graphic designer, says he could not agree more. He brags that as a fan of more radical, vintage styles, he has never shopped for clothes in a chain store. "It's not because of the price, but because those mass-produced big brands lack and feeling of love or warmth," Sun says.

Before he moved to Beijing half a year ago, Sun was studying at Xi'an Fine Arts College. He bought his first vintage clothing in 2004, and has loved old styles since he discovered flea market shopping.

**"Compared with tailors in Western countries, dressmakers here charge much less money. I think people should try to make alterations on old clothes before they buy up new clothes."**

"It has no logo and no brand. It's kind of weird, but fits my style. I love that skinny, old look," Sun says.

Stylish shoppers also look for contrast and color. Contrast was common decades ago, and Sun thinks it is poised for a comeback.

"It proved its value by surviving in the closet," he says.

But cheap prices do not mean these vintage clothes are cheap in quality. A long, 20-yuan skirt is usually made of better material than a new 1,000-yuan designer one.

Twiggy Song recently found some new things in the Shuguangli market in Tianjin, another stop popular with fans of vintage apparel. The 24-year-old fashion editor had her local tailor make some alterations on the skirts for another 15 yuan.

"Compared with tailors in Western countries, dressmakers here charge much less money. I think people should try to make alterations on old clothes before they buy up new clothes," Frye says. He had his tailor make him a shirt out of an old curtain that he loved the pattern of.

The trick is finding good material and a good design: the rest is up to the tailors. Sun had a baggy hoodie cut to something slimmer for 30 yuan. "There are cheap tailor

shops that charge little, and it helps if you are willing to learn some basic knowledge," he says.

Such markets also supply many vintage clothing shops in the downtown. But by the time vintage clothes make it into a vintage clothing store, the price has increased tenfold.

"The dealers usually sell the clothes at a high price, sometimes 1,000 yuan if it is a trendy brand like D&G, Paul Smith or Ben Sherman. I know a lot of young people in Europe shop second hand to find cheap clothes. Ironically, here it seldom helps save money. The dealers just build a fancy second hand store then jack up the price," Song says.

Not all vintage clothing is suitable in the modern world: the keywords are mix and match. "You can find clothes from all ages and in all styles at the flea market. Use your imagination to create a new look. Balance always dominates. It would not be wise to mix a coat and plaid pants. I never listen to advice from fashion magazines either," Sun says.

Shopping the flea markets is hardly a sign of poverty: Sun wears Nike Air Force shoes because of their quality.

"A shirt from Dongwuyuan, a skirt from the flea markets, sometimes stuff from Zara or H&M. Everything I wear must be a simple design, and the shoes may cost more than 1,000 yuan. It doesn't matter how much I paid for it, I care more about the quality and whether I feel comfortable or not when I wear it," Zhang says.

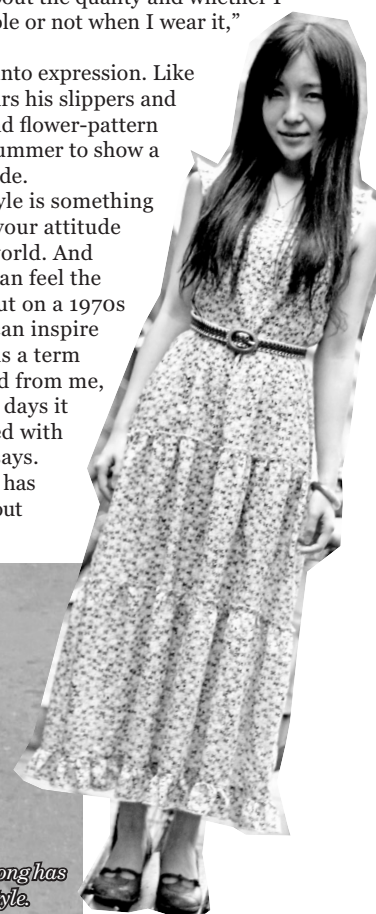
It all goes into expression. Like when Sun wears his slippers and short pants and flower-pattern shirts in the summer to show a carefree attitude.

"To me, style is something that changes your attitude towards the world. And sometimes I can feel the past when I put on a 1970s fur jacket. It can inspire you. Fashion is a term so far removed from me, because these days it is so associated with luxury," Sun says.

And luxury has never been about expression.



Zhang Qiubiao



*The young designer Sun Lu says he never buys clothes with brand names except shoes.*

*As a fashion editor, Twiggy Song has her own understanding of style.*

Photos provided by Sun Lu, Twiggy Song and Zhang Qiubiao

15  
Trend

Editor: He Jianwei Designer: Zhao Yan

BEIJING TODAY



# A gift from High Art

New



The shop uses a blackboard as an info board.



The anti-water light was collected from a flea market by the shop owners.

Photos by Song Nannan

By Wang Yu

Since they were girls, Gao Fei and Yuan Wei shared the dream of one day opening their own shop. The weekend before last, the dream came true at Wudaoying Hutong.

Hidden just to the west of Yonghegong, there lies a street occupied by 40 shops and cafes. While people sometimes describe it as the next Nanluoguxiang, it still remains quiet and comfortable, even though it is at the center of nearby tourist attractions.

High Art, a young ladies' shop located at the west end, is small but easy to locate, as the shop owners have colored the door and the wall with blue and white – the shop's theme colors.

Before the room was decorated to be High Art, it used to be the home for a family of five. "It was an immigrant worker's family," Yuan says. "Sadly, there are still many people like them who live in in such poor conditions," Yuan says.

However, the shop, still maintains its sense of home due to the cozy design and decoration by its new owners. Shelves are tacked on the walls to display colored bottles and shapes, porcelain carvings and figurines, lamps, and second-hand clothing which are purchased by the owners themselves. At the back of the room there is a small table beside the window with a wooden chair which was found in a flea market and was repainted.

A wooden puppet marked with "not for sale" is hanging on the wall. "It is a gift from one of my friends. Someday I may find it a new master in this shop but for now at least, I don't want to sell it," Yuan says.

The two owners used to edit an e-magazine and Yuan Wei still works as a reporter.

"It is a home, a place to hang out with friends and also the office of our design studio – tpvision," Gao says. They both said it does not matter how much money they can earn from the shop, rather that it exists at all. You cannot easily categorizing High Art because in addition to items like clothes and decorative pieces, it also sells exotic and specialty items, such as a cat embryo sample (118 yuan) which was collected from a veterinarian friend of Yuan who sterilized feral cats. An old anti-water light (45 yuan) hung behind the door is a nice decoration found as a waster.

Almost every thing of High Art has its story written on the price tag. "We are working on designing our own packaging," Yuan says. "But really, the things in the shop are ideal gifts to your friends because they are precious once you know where were they come from."

**High Art**

Where: 48 Wudaoying Hutong,  
Dongcheng District  
Open: 10:30 am – 8:30 pm  
Tel: 13581978680

# Best way to beat the rain

New



By Wang Yu

The shops on East Gulou Avenue typically offer the same thing – clothing, knick-knacks, and musical instruments. Even the new ones that spring up can disappoint, offering only slight variations on the products being sold right next door. Recently, however, a new shop has opened on this popular tourist street that sells something original.

Located near the north exit of Nanluogu Alley, Ruoshuitang is an oil-paper umbrella shop. It opened two weeks ago, but the traditional decoration has already made a remarkable impression on the streets' patrons. Its simple, sleek decor, with a red lantern hanging outside the shop, white walls and dark wooden furniture, are reminiscent of a shop from 100 years ago. And what's most exciting is that the furniture aside, the room is filled with nothing but umbrellas.

The oil-paper umbrella dates back to 2,000 years ago, and few inventions can match the perfect marriage of delicacy and sturdiness that traditional oil-paper umbrellas exhibit. The dainty surface, with its paintings of flowers, birds, characters and picturesque Chinese landscapes, belies the strength that it can provide on the rainiest of days.

All of the parts are handcrafted. The main structure of an umbrella is made of bamboo while the shades are made of special tissue paper designed to withstand the elements. Before the painters paint them, the shades are first coated with tung oil to become water-resistant.

"Inevitably, a new oil-paper umbrella emits a strange smell because of the tung oil," says Cheng Dehu, manage of Ruoshuitang. "But that will disappear after its first use in the rain." All of the umbrellas are made in the shop's factory in Hunan Province. Besides the craftsmen, the Cheng also works with some traditional Chinese painters to decorate the shades.

"An umbrella's value depends on the painting. The average price of an umbrella in the shop



Photos by Song Nannan

is between 100 to 300 yuan. The most expensive one in the shop, about 1,000 yuan, was painted by a Jingdezhen painter with a variety of patterns of flowers, trees and birds. It shows the painter's high skill," Cheng says.

However, like many other traditional arts and crafts, the industry of oil-paper umbrella making is at risk of disappearing. The whole procedure of making such an umbrella takes about 10 days, and requires highly skilled craftsmen and painters; more than eighty processes are required before an umbrella is finished. As the old craftsmen pass away and the young generation do not learn their trade, the future of the trade is tenuous.

**Ruoshuitang**

Where: 144, Gulou Dong Dajie,  
Dongcheng District

Open: 10:00 am – 11:00 pm

Tel: 6406 4496

# It's tea time!

New



Photo by Chen Lingyi

By Annie Wei

Chen Minglou, a 55 year-old Shanghai man, has been a connoisseur of tea for over 30 years. After retiring as a doctor, Chen opened a shop focusing solely on teas and tea culture in Shanghai. Last weekend, Chen and his daughter visited Beijing and introduced their special tea to restaurants.

Zishuncha is Chen's favorite green tea, which has a light taste but a strong flavor.

During the Tang Dynasty (618 – 907) it was

considered to be "the best of all" green teas by scholars. It grows on the Guzhu Hill in Changxing, Zhejiang. Between AD 774 and 765, tea expert Lu Yu found it and recommended it to the Emperor Daizhong.

Chen said that as many people do not know much about tea, especially the differences between high quality and low quality teas, it is difficult to market expensive teas to consumers.

Such tea does not sell cheap. On Taobao.com, for instance, Zishuncha costs 500 yuan for 500 grams.

But prices should not deter those with an interest in specialty teas. A trip to Minglou's tea workshop will answer all of your questions without emptying your wallet.

**Minglou's tea workshop**

Where: 475 Nong, Tianshan Lu, Shanghai

Tel: 021- 6259 0886

**Zishuncha**

Where: Taobao.com

Cost: 318 – 500 yuan per 500 grams



# Inexpensive Western food near Gulou

By Annie Wei

East Gulou Avenue seems to be getting more and more popular every day. Thou shopping this mostly Chinese street can try the Connections Bar & Grill for a Western restaurant.

*Beijing Today* highly recommends the cream of wild mushroom soup (25 yuan), with its strong mushroom flavor and tempered richness. The potato skins (28 yuan), which come baked to perfection topped with ground beef and shredded cheese and garnished with pickles, are also very tasty.

Also worth trying are its nine varieties of pizzas (28-48 yuan for 9-inch and 58-75 yuan for 12-inch pizzas). Other main dishes include grilled baby back ribs (50 yuan for 250 grams), oven baked sea bass (68 yuan) and the stewed seafood with Thai sauce (58 yuan).

Its impressive red windows make it hard to miss, and the owner's East-meets-West style of decoration – oil paintings and photos of Tibet taken by the owner and her friends – are nice touch.

The staff is both friendly and attentive, and with its quiet courtyard, diners can enjoy a savory summer until mid-night.

## Connections Bar & Grill.

Where: 206 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng District

Open: 11 am – 11 pm

(later in summer time).

Cost: Starting from 40 yuan



Mushroom soup, 25 yuan



Grilled baby back ribs, 50 yuan for 250 grams

Photos provided by Connections Bar & Grill

## BreadTalk's newest location and recipes

By Zhang Dongya

The specialty bread chain, BreadTalk, has just opened its newest location in Raffles City on Dongzhimen South Avenue – its 16th store in town. The Singapore chain, which opened in 2000, is one of the most popular places in Beijing to purchase those sought-after baguettes and croissants. BreadTalk also has a reputation for its more experimental baked goods, and recently has developed four new kinds, available at all locations, including the new Raffles branch.

### Chaipor floss, 6 yuan, simple but wonderful

Chaipor Floss gets its name from a local TV hit in Singapore. It is a dinner roll filled with spicy chaipor. Though both the chaipor and floss are pretty normal



Coffee ball, 6 yuan

Chaipor floss, 6 yuan

Photos provided by BreadTalk

ingredients, the baker commented on it with words borrowed from the TV drama, "no matter how plain and uninteresting, with love, care and devotion, it

will shine."

### Cheddar double, 5 yuan, high in calcium

Soft French bread smothered in

cheese, it is both rich in calcium and scrumptious. Cheese lovers will not want to miss this bread.

### Curry dozo, 6 yuan, Japanese flavor

The golden-yellow curry bread is originally a Japanese recipe. Filled with chunks of chicken, carrot, onion and eggs, it's not to be missed.

### Coffee ball, 6 yuan, coffee you can eat

Filled with coffee cream, this bun. Coffee lovers can get their coffee fix in this delectable treat.

### BreadTalk Raffles City

Where: B1-01, Raffles City, 1, Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng District

Tel: 8409 8892

Open: 10 am – 10 pm



Yellow ricecakes, 14 yuan



Onion-braised chicken, 48 yuan

## Affordable home style Shanghainese cuisine

By Annie Wei

For a city with such a diversity of cuisines, good Shanghainese restaurants continue to be scarce. However, the opening of Yangjia Sifangcai at Gongti West Street marks a welcome addition to a neighborhood graced with such outstanding places such as Hotel-G and the gay bar- Destination.

Most dishes on the menu cost around 20 yuan. We recommend the *liangban sansi* (14 yuan), which comes with needle mushrooms, bean sprouts, and sweet peas and fungus is served cold and is most suitable for summer. The *yangjia jiangya* (20 yuan), braised duck, is both savory and flavorful.

There are some distinguished Shanghai dishes like *zuiji* (20 yuan), or "drunken chicken," tender pieces of chicken blanched and marinated in Shaoxing wine; *kaofu* (around 23 yuan), wheat gluten, braised in a sweet sauce along with black mushrooms, daylily flow-

ers, and peanuts; *xunyu*, or smoked fish (20 yuan), braised flat ribbon fish in aromatic sauce, and tastes sweet with a light smoked flavor.

For hot dishes, like *xiefen doufu* (48 yuan), cubes of silken tofu are simmered in a clay pot with crabmeat and roe. This light but savory is classic Shanghai food.

For the main course, *qingzheng shiyu* (188 yuan), or steamed Hilsa herring is another classic Shanghainese dish. The fish is seasoned with aged Shaoxing wine and steamed together with black mushrooms and ham. The fish is known for its tenderness. In some high-end Shanghainese restaurants, this dish can easily cost 600 yuan. However, for those with a tight budget interested in casual dining, this is your best bet.

Shanghainese cuisine is known for small, delicate portions. For people who are used to northern China's larger portions and bolder style, it may take some getting used to.



Fried tofu, 24 yuan

Photos by Yu Shanshan

### Yangjia Sifangcai

Where: 68 Gongti Xi Lu, Xinzhong Jie, Chaoyang District

Open: 11 am – 2 pm for lunch and 5-10 pm for dinner

Tel: 6552 7801

Cost: starting from 50 yuan per person





Zhongguojie, Chinese Ties, by Wang Shuyi

# The youth, the future of Chinese contemporary art

By He Jianwei

"It is not the wind that decides the direction, but the sailor who decides," Dieter Jung, a 68-year-old German artist said last Wednesday after he saw more than 300 works from Chinese art students at the Today Art Museum.

Two dozen art students from 14 colleges and universities were awarded the fourth "Giant Cup" Today National Art Student Annual Award in

four categories, such as Chinese painting, oil painting, printing making and sculpture and installation.

The Award, founded in 2006, aims to "give art students the opportunity of displaying their talent and building their confidence," Zhang Zikang, director of the Today Art Museum, said.

Jung is the first foreign artist to sponsor the Chinese art students' award. He personally awarded Mo Libo from the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts with a Dieter Jung Award for his installation.

Mo's work "People's Daily on August 19 of 1966" shows the front page of *People's Daily* and many stamps carved with the characters from the newspaper.

On August 18, 1966, Chairman Mao received one million Red Guards in Tian'anmen Square, which was the first of eight rallies during the Cultural Revolution. "Mo's work is thoughtful and doubts the power of the press, which can create history and change it," Jung said.

Jung spent half a day reviewing all of the students' works, which filled him with optimism about the future of Chinese contemporary art.

Over the past three years, Chinese contemporary art has made record sales at auctions. Although good market prices for contemporary art works did influence the creation, he concluded the market stimulates the students to rethink the reality. "A good piece doesn't mean a high price," he said.

## My Motherland and Me – "Giant Cup" Today National Art Students Annual Awards 2009

Where: Today Art Museum, Pingod Community, 32 Baiziwan Lu, Chaoyang District  
When: Until August 21, daily 10 am – 5 pm  
Admission: 20 yuan; 10 yuan for students  
Tel: 5876 0600



Photo provided by Today Art Museum

## Upcoming

### Movie

#### City of God

Where: Room 606, Building 16, Jianwai SOHO, 39 Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang District  
When: August 19, 7 pm  
Admission: Free  
Tel: 5900 3054

## Stage in September

### Concert

#### Roland Batik Solo Concert

Where: Forbidden City Music Hall (inside Zhongshan Park), Dongcheng District  
When: September 11, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 30-380 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8306

#### Bach Cycle – Sheng Yuan Piano 2

Where: Forbidden City Music Hall (inside Zhongshan Park), Dongcheng District  
When: September 18, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 30-380 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8306

#### China National Symphony Orchestra Performing Season – Opening Concert

Where: Concert Hall of the National Center for the Performing Arts, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng District  
When: September 3, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 80-500 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

#### Lucerne Festival in Beijing 2009

Where: Concert Hall of the National Center for the Performing Arts, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng District  
When: September 20-25, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 100-1,580 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

#### Concert on Opera: "Madam Butterfly"

Where: Concert Hall of the National Center for the Performing Arts, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng District  
When: September 12, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 50-400 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

### Drama

#### Broadway Musical Cats

Where: Beijing Exhibition Center, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng District  
When: September 19-27, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 280-1,180 yuan  
Tel: 6835 1592

#### Splendid Indian Musical: Merchants of Bollywood

Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng District  
When: September 25-29, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 80-2,009 yuan  
Tel: 5166 3124

#### Large-scale Shanxi Zarzuela: Liberation

Where: Opera House of the National Center for the Performing Arts, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng District  
When: September 1-7, 7:30 pm  
Admission: 80-400 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

(By Jackie Zhang)

## Friday, August 14

### Exhibition

#### Transition

Where: 2 Kolegas, 21 Liangmaqiao Lu (inside the

drive-in cinema), Chaoyang District

When: 8:10 pm

Admission: 15 yuan

Tel: 6436 8998

#### Zhao Lu's illustrations

Where: Story Garden Cafe, 15 Beizhan Bei Jie, Xizhimen, Xicheng District

When: Until August 20, daily, 10 am – 11 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 8832 0741

### Movie

#### Wall-E

Where: Room 606, Building 16, Jianwai SOHO, 39 Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang District

When: 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 5900 3054

### Nightlife

#### The Verse

Where: Yugongyishan, 3-2 Zhangzizhong Lu, Dongcheng District

When: 10 pm

Admission: 50 yuan

Tel: 6404 2711

#### Vestax Show

Where: Mao Livehouse, 111 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng District

When: 9 pm

Admission: 70 yuan

Tel: 6402 5080

#### Old Fashion

Where: D-22, 242 Chengfu Lu, Haidian District

When: 8:30 pm

Admission: 40 yuan

Tel: 6265 3177

## Saturday, August 15

### Exhibition

#### Fake Authenticity – Wu Mingzhong Solo Exhibition

Where: Today Art Museum, Pingod Community, 32 Baiziwan Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until August 22, daily 10 am – 5 pm

Admission: 10 yuan; 5

yuan for students

Tel: 5876 0600

#### Yan Lei- Sparkling

Where: Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA), 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until October 11, daily except Monday, 10 am – 7 pm

Admission: 15 yuan

Tel: 8459 9269

#### Time to Rest – Solo Exhibition of Gérard Rondeau

Where: TH Photo Gallery, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Nan Jie, Chaoyang District

When: Until August 30, daily except Monday, 10 am – 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 15910633971

### Movie

#### Stone Mountain

Where: 5/F Wenjin Hotel, Tsinghua Science Park, Haidian District

When: 4:30 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6252 5566

### Nightlife

#### We Live At D-22

Where: D-22, 242 Chengfu Lu, Haidian District

When: 8 pm

Admission: 50 yuan

Tel: 6265 3177



#### Rock Your Baby All Night Long!

Where: 2 Kolegas, 21 Liangmaqiao Lu (inside the drive-in cinema), Chaoyang District

When: 10 pm

Admission: 50 yuan

Tel: 6436 8998

## Sunday, August 16

### Exhibition

#### Yan Ming – Landscape of Childhood

Where: Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA), 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until October 11, daily except Monday, 10 am – 7 pm

Admission: 15 yuan

Tel: 8459 9269

#### Feng Mengbo – Restart

Where: Ullens Center for

Contemporary Art (UCCA), 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until August 30, daily except Monday, 10 am – 7 pm

Admission: 15 yuan

Tel: 8459 9269

### Nightlife

#### And Jazzers in Hot Cat Club

#### Jam Session 5

Where: Hot Cat Club, 46 Fangjia Hutong, Dongcheng District

When: 2 pm

Admission: Free  
Tel: 6400 7868



#### Xiuchangguatou's Show

Where: Weibozhiyan Club, 2308 (3/F) North Building,

SOHO Shangdu, 8 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: 9 pm

Admission: 40 yuan

Tel: 5900 0969

### Movie

#### Chicken Run

Where: China Film Archive, 3 Wenhuiyuan Lu, Haidian District

When: 2 pm

Admission: 10 yuan for children; 20 yuan for adults; 25 yuan for a child and parent

Tel: 8229 6228



# Dangers of the 'healthy' vegetarian diet

By Venus Lee

Vegetarian diets have long been touted as healthy, but that does not mean that vegetarians are healthier than the rest of us.

## Cover-up for an eating disorder

It comes as no surprise that researchers have found that among the more than 2,500 15- to 23-year-olds surveyed, the vegetarians ate more fruits and vegetables and less fat, and were less likely to be overweight than meat-eaters.

However, these same vegetarians were more likely to report problems with binge eating, and former vegetarians were likely to admit to using extreme measures to control their weight – measures like diet pills, purging or abusing laxatives.

The findings suggest that while vegetarian diets can be healthy, in some teens they may mask a drive to be thin, says lead researcher Dr. Ramona Robinson-O'Brien, from the College of Saint Benedict at Saint John's University, Minnesota, US.

Although most teens in her study said the embarked on vegetarianism to be healthier or to save the environment and animals, research suggests they may be more interested in losing weight. For these teens, vegetarianism becomes an accept-

able way to avoid certain foods, or possibly to conceal drastic weightloss measures.

Experimenting with vegetarianism is common. The study, which appears in the latest Journal of the American Dietetic Association, is based on a survey of 2,516 teenagers and young adults. Roughly 85 percent had never gone vegetarian, while 4 percent were currently vegetarian and 11 percent had been vegetarian it in the past.

Researchers found current vegetarians consumed five serv-

ings of fruits and vegetables each day and got less than 30 percent of their calories from fat. By contrast, lifelong meat eaters averaged fewer than four servings of fruits and vegetables a day and consumed more than 30 percent of their calories as fat.

However, while most vegetarians used healthy tactics to check their weight, they were more likely than meat-eaters to have issues with eating and weight control.

Among current vegetarians, about 18 percent said they had

problems with binge eating, compared with 5 percent of their peers who were never vegetarian. Similarly, 27 percent of former vegetarians admitted to extreme weight-control tactics, versus 15 percent of the lifelong meat-eaters.

Robinson-O'Brien said parents should be aware that teen vegetarians have a risk of nutritional deficiencies if their diet is not well-planned. She suggested parents ask a doctor or dietitian to help educate the child on proper nutrition and meal planning.

## Don't just cut out meat

Zhou Qinglu, a nutritionist of Beijing Institute of Sport Science, said pursuing vegetarianism blindly not only hurts the health of teenagers, but also adults.

Many vegetarians believe that all they need to do is cut out the meat and they are often cynical about official healthy eating messages. "People are choosing the vegetarian option thinking it's healthier when quite often the dish is full of carbs, sugars, salts, saturated fats, hydrogenated fats and no worthwhile protein," she said.

Protein from animal sources is considered high biological value protein or a "complete" protein, because all nine essen-

tial amino acids are present.

Plant sources of protein, like grains, legumes, nuts and seeds, generally do not contain sufficient amounts of one or more of these essential amino acids. These proteins are considered to have intermediate biological value or to be partially complete because, although consumed alone, they do not meet the requirements for essential amino acids. They can however be combined to provide amounts and proportions of amino acids equivalent to high biological proteins from animal sources, but must be consumed in great quantities.

These sources include most fruits and vegetables.

## Other deficiencies

Besides high quality protein, a strict vegetarian diet may cause the following deficiencies:

**1. Zinc deficiency:** Vegetarians regularly get too little zinc, which can impact the immune system and sex drive. "Meat is the best source of zinc," Zhou said, "Children and women – especially pregnant ones – need the zinc contained in meat most."

**2. Vitamin B12 deficiency:** Vegans consume no animal products and are susceptible to Vitamin B12 deficiency, which is the necessary for blood formation and a healthy nerve system. Vitamin B12 is found in algae, other marine plants and fermented soy foods. "A long-term deficiency of Vitamin B12

can cause visual hallucinations, memory loss, lags in response time and fatigue," Zhou said.

**3. Iron deficiency:** The iron in vegetables cannot be absorbed completely by humans, unlike the iron in animal products. "Iron content in a vegan's body is very low, and that can cause anemia – especially in women and children," she said.

Foods such as lean red meat, dark green vegetables and lentils contain

more iron. Many breakfast cereals are fortified with iron. When you serve a vegetarian meal, accompany it with something containing Vitamin C. Vitamin C enhances the absorption of iron from vegetarian foods. A glass of unsweetened fruit juice or a salad can also help your body extract more of iron from your food. Avoid drinking tea with a vegetarian meal, as it interferes with iron absorption.

**4. Vitamin D deficiency:** Plants food rarely contain Vitamin D. A deficiency in Vitamin D will influence calcium absorption and skeletal development. "Even looking out of an open window when the sun is shining can help your body to produce more Vitamin D. This is especially important if you are older and spending a lot of time at home," she said.

**5. Calcium deficiency:** This is common among vegans, who do not consume dairy products. "Bones continue to grow until your late 20s, and a lack of calcium at this age can increase the risk of osteoporosis later in life," she said. Eat calcium-rich foods like milk, cheese and yogurt. Choose low-fat varieties when you can, or eat high-fat varieties in small portions. You also get calcium from small fish that are eaten with the bones, such as sardines. Broccoli and cabbage provide calcium.

"You may have a hectic lifestyle and be trying to watch your weight at the same time, but be careful not to miss meals. Breakfast is particularly important – it is a chance for you to get fiber from whole grain cereals or breads and calcium from low-fat milk or yogurt. Evidence suggests that people who eat breakfast are better able to manage their weight," she said.

## Caution for women vegetarians

Zhou said there are three times in a woman's life where a vegetarian diet can be especially damaging:

**1. Sexual maturation:** Vegetarian foods will cause a woman's estrogen level to drop, which delays development of secondary sex characteristics.

**2. Child-bearing:** A decrease in estrogen levels can cause pregnancy disorders.

**3. Menopause:** Due to atrophy of ovaries and the end of estrogen secretions, the menopause transition can become even more difficult.

CFP Photo

Vegetarian food Vegetarian food Vegetarian food

Vegetarian food Vegetarian food Vegetarian food





# End your summer on the secluded seaside

By Zhang Dongya

According to the Chinese calendar, autumn began last week. But as seasons do not always adhere to the dates we give them, the summer heat is sure to continue through the end of August.

As such, the solution is to cool off at one of the many seaside destinations around Beijing. But all too often, established resorts like Beidaihe and Nandaihe are over-crowded and noisy. *Beijing Today* offers you some other more peaceful and scenic alternatives.



*Huge reefs in the sea are confirmed as Jieshi, which has appeared in an ancient poem by Cao Cao.*



*Visitors can enjoy a comparatively tranquil seashore at Zhimao Wan.*

## Zhimao Wan, stop here for some sea and history

Zhimao Wan, located in a small town in Suizhong County, Liaoning Province, sounds far away from Beijing, but actually, it is only a three-and-a-half-hour drive.

The name means "a bay for docking," Zhimao Wan is a small dock, that shares the same sea with Beidaihe. The water in Zhimao Wan is clear and shallow, with the beach flat and full of soft sand. There is no straight or regular coastline as other developed seashores, and clusters of reefs divide the sea into several parts. Fishing lovers will find it is a good spot to catch fish, and if you want to fish from the sea and not the dock, boats are available for rent.

Unlike nearby Beidaihe, Zhimao Wan is not overrun with tourists. Walking along the beach, visitors can enjoy a comparatively tranquil seashore.

It is highly suggested that you stay overnight in Zhimao Wan, to watch the stunning sunrises and sunsets the beach

view provides, as well as soothing sound of the waves at night.

Walking along the coastline to the east, you will find a white-sand beach, reefs and rocks above the sea level. Obsolete scenes of the past, like abandoned lighthouses, old fishing ports, and shabby cottages are also a part of the landscape.

To the west, there are several historic landscapes not far away from the sea.

Relics of Qin and Han Dynasties are located on the seashore of Zhimao Wan. It includes six large historic sites of ancient palaces, with Jieshi Palace is one of the biggest. The architecture shows the splendid and well-designed ancient cities of Xianyang and Chang'an of the Qin and Han Dynasties. Visitors can still see the layout of the ancient palace: its rooms, intricate drainage systems, and cellars.

The Temple of Mengjiangnu is another destination located on Fenghuang Mountain, or Phoenix Mountain along the seaside.

Every Chinese household is familiar with the "Bitter Weeping" legend of Mengjiangnu, which tells the story of the love between a pair of newlyweds in ancient China.

People have respected Mengjiangnu's love and faithfulness for thousands of years. She is remembered in poetry, folk songs and plays. The Temple of Mengjiangnu, is built in commemoration of her story.

The temple is thought to have been built before the Song Dynasty (960-1279) and repaired in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), so the existing temple is the embodiment of the



*Big crab on the beach*

Photos by Xixi

architectural style of Ming.

There are 108 steps leading to the temple from the foot of the mountain, symbolizing the hardships and obstacles on the way of Mengjiangnu's journey to look for her husband. It is a small and simple temple, with the walls inside are inscribed with poetry, letters and calligraphy. The main hall pays tribute to Mengjiangnu with a colored sculpture featuring Mengjiangnu with two maidens standing by her side. Near the temple you will find Zhenyi Pavilion, Waiting-husband Rock, and Dressing-table Platform, all of which are relate to the legend of Mengjiangnu.

There are also three huge reefs in the sea about 200 meters off the coast, where people like to take photos. The reefs rise more than 20 meters above sea level. Legend has it that Mengjiangnu wept for her dead husband, which made the Great Wall collapse when she jumped into the sea from these very reefs. Then archaeologists found it was also the place called Jieshi, which has appeared in the well-known poem of Cao Cao, the central figure of the Three Kingdoms period as well as an established poet in Chinese history.

*Continued on page 21...*

*The Temple of Mengjiangnu was built on Phoenix Mountain along the seaside.*  
CFP Photo



... continued from page 20

## Accommodations

Accommodations in Zhimao Wan are not well-developed. There are no hotels, and visitors can only stay in the fishermen's houses.

Local fishermen have built rudimentary guest-houses near the sea. Their proximity to the ocean allows you to experience the ocean even at night and the prices are very reasonable, from 15 yuan to 50 yuan for each bed. There are double rooms, triple, quad and even rooms for six beds.

Some houses are a little bit further from the sea, but offer lower prices, from 50 to 80 yuan for standard rooms.

All prices are negotiable, especially for groups.

Food consists mainly of home-cooked seafood dishes by local fishermen – crabs, shrimps, scallops and fish. Prices are just as same as that in Beijing, but the food is fresher. You can pay for the local people to cook for you, or you cook it yourself if you like – just remember to negotiate the price ahead.

## Traffic

Drive along Jingshen Express Way to the Shanhai Pass and then turn right from Wanjia Zhen. Zhimao Wan is another 10 kilometers to the south. It takes about three and a half hours.

Or you can take a train from Beijing to Shanhai Pass, then take a mini-bus directly to the seashore of Zhimao Wan. Do not forget to haggle over the fare with the driver.

## Notes

If you drive yourself, bring enough water and food. Aside from the fresh seafood, little else is available.

There are quite a few military bases on the seashore. They are a bit of an eyesore, but not so much so that it would not be worth the trip.

Though most of the beach is sand, there are reefs and rocks submerged in the sea, so be careful when you enter, and wear sandals.

Fishermen and villagers are hospitable, but remember to negotiate prices for lodging or catering ahead of time.

Visitors who bring tents to the beach have to pay a small fee. Prices range from 30 yuan to 50 yuan.

Some remote seaside have less people and more splendid scenery.

CFP Photos



Tianhengdao, located in the east of Qingdao, now begins to attract more visitors.



Tide ebbs at Tianhengdao.

## More remote seaside options

### Huangdao

Huangdao, the economic development zone of Qingdao, Shandong Province, has an attractive beach. Compared to other near bathing beaches like Qingdao, it has clean sand and clear water, and most importantly, fewer crowds.

Getting there: The most convenient way getting to Qingdao is to take the CRH (China Railway High-speed) train. The train departs every two hours from Beijing, and it takes about five hours to get to Qingdao. Upon arrival, take a ferry to Huangdao.

### Tianhengdao

Located in the Huanghai Sea, the east of Qingdao, Tianhengdao is said to be the island where a warlord during the Han Dynasty named Tian Heng hid himself after losing a battle with Liu Bang, the Western and Eastern Han ruler and emperor, thus the name. The island is covered with trees, and the sea water is less polluted than at Qingdao.

Getting there: Get to Qingdao via CRH trains, and transfer to Tianhengdao by long-distance bus.





# Tourism

## Swiss vote Lucerne as most beautiful city

The renowned LINK Institute, a Swiss company famous for its representative surveys, asked the Swiss to vote for the most beautiful city in the country. Not surprisingly, Lucerne won the contest for its beautiful location on the lake, its accessibility by rail and road and its historic, old town feel with many shopping facilities. The nearby mountains offer unlimited possibilities for excursions.

## Pindos Mountain Range destinations

Although unfamiliar to tourists, the small villages that dot the Pindos mountain range are havens of beauty and respite from the summer heat. The village of Armatoliko, with a population of just 250 people engaged in farming and animal husbandry, is the perfect holiday destination to relax and spending long hours fishing for trout in the crystal clear waters of the Acheloos River. Nearby Mt. Pahtournesa offers an unforgettable scenic experience for hikers.



## Store

### Pantry Magic's new goods

Pantry Magic has just received a new lineup of heavy, professional-quality stainless steel cookware of its own label. Developed to industry standards, the practical and durable cookware is also very economical. There are 16 items to choose from, including non-stick sauté and frying pans. All come with a full lifetime warranty.

The store also sharpens knives while you shop.

Where: D108, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: 10 am - 9 pm

Tel: 5208 6001



## Hotel

### Shangri-La Hotels holds charity mooncake sale

Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts has organized a nationwide charity mooncake sale to benefit Care for Children, a charity that helps orphaned or underprivileged children find foster care. Twenty-seven Shangri-La and Traders hotels will join forces in this fund-raising activity. Four mooncakes in two flavors-red or white lotus paste-will be packaged in special boxes. The hotels will donate 40 yuan for each box of mooncakes sold.

When: Until October 3

Cost: 138 yuan each box

### New appointments

Benson Su is the new director of sales at the Gloria Plaza Hotel Beijing after being promoted from assistant director. Before joining the Gloria Plaza Hotel Beijing, he served in the Jingguang New World Hotel and Traders Hotel Beijing. He has 10 years of experience in sales and marketing in the hospitality industry.

### GI Joe: The Rise of Cobra

An elite military unit comprised of special operatives known as GI Joe, operating out of The Pit, takes on an evil organization led by a notorious arms dealer.

When: Now playing



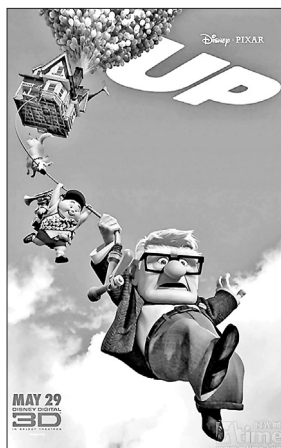
### State of Play

A petty thief is gunned down in an alley and a congressman's assistant falls before a subway car. They are two seemingly unrelated deaths. But not to wisecracking, brash newspaper reporter Cal McAffrey who spies a conspiracy waiting to be uncovered. With the aid of ambitious rookie writer Della Frye, Cal begins uprooting clues that lead him to a corporate cover-up full of insiders, informants and assassins. But as he draws closer to the truth, the relentless journalist must decide if it is worth risking his life and selling his soul to get the ultimate story.

When: August 18

### Up

By tying thousands of balloons to his home, 78-year-old Carl Fredricksen sets out to fulfill



his lifelong dream to see the wilds of South America. Right after lifting off, however, he learns he isn't alone on his journey, since Russell, a wilderness explorer 70 years his junior, has inadvertently become a stow-away on the trip.

When: Now playing

## The taste of Autumn

Three stylish moon cakes - Luster, Gust and Gloss-are available this year only. Early Bird discounts are available for firms placing and pre-paying an order JW Marriott Hotel Beijing. Orders may be collected after September 1. Place your order before August 15 for a 20 percent discount. Place your order between August 16 and September 1 for a 10 percent discount.

Where: JW Marriott Hotel Beijing, 83 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang District

Cost: 158 yuan (Luster), 358 yuan (Gust), 488 yuan (Gloss)  
Tel: 5908 6688

## Mid-Autumn celebration

The Grand Millennium Beijing Deluxe Moon Cakes Set includes the following fillings: egg yolk with white lotus paste, green tea paste, low-sugar pumpkin, red bean paste, mixed nuts and Chinese ham and green bean paste in a flaky pastry.

Where: Grand Millennium Beijing, 7 Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang District

Cost: 288 yuan net per box

Tel: 8587 6888 ext. 3013



## Beer garden

The beer garden of Swissotel Beijing is a wonderful place to enjoy a relaxing evening of live music and authentic foods. BBQ and Bavarian Specialties from mouthwatering Weisswurst to delectable Sauerkraut with Nuremberg sausages are available. Sporting events are broadcast on the Swissotel's 5-square-meter screen.

Where: Swissotel Beijing Hong Kong Macau Center, 2 Chaoyangmen Bei Dajie, Dongcheng District

When: Until October, weather permitting, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Tel: 6553 2288 ext. 2161 / 4985 / 4986

## Dining



## Mid-Autumn greetings

To celebrate this Mid-Autumn Festival, The Great Wall Sheraton Hotel Beijing has prepared scrumptious mooncakes packaged for your family and friends.

Where: The Great Wall Sheraton Hotel Beijing, 10 Dongsanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

Cost: from 88 yuan per box (regular packaging), 108 yuan (luxury), 228 yuan (lucky box), 1,118 yuan (grand box)

Tel: 6590 5286 / 5566 ext. 2132

## Cinema

### Theaters

#### Stellar International Cineplex

Add: 5F Jinyuan Shopping Center, 1 Yuanda Lu, Haidian District

Tel: 8886 4988

Add: 4F Wangjing International Business Center, 9 Wangjing Jie, Chaoyang District

Tel: 59203788

#### UME International Cineplex

Add: 44 Kexueyuan Nan Lu, Haidian District

Tel: 8211 5566

Add: 5F Fuli Plaza, Shuangjing Qiao Bei, Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang District

Tel: 5903 7171

#### Imegabox

Add: F3 Jinlehu, Zhongguancun Plaza Shopping Center, Haidian District

Tel: 5986 3777

Add: F1, Sanlitun Village, Chaoyang District

Tel: 6417 6118

#### Wanda International Cinema

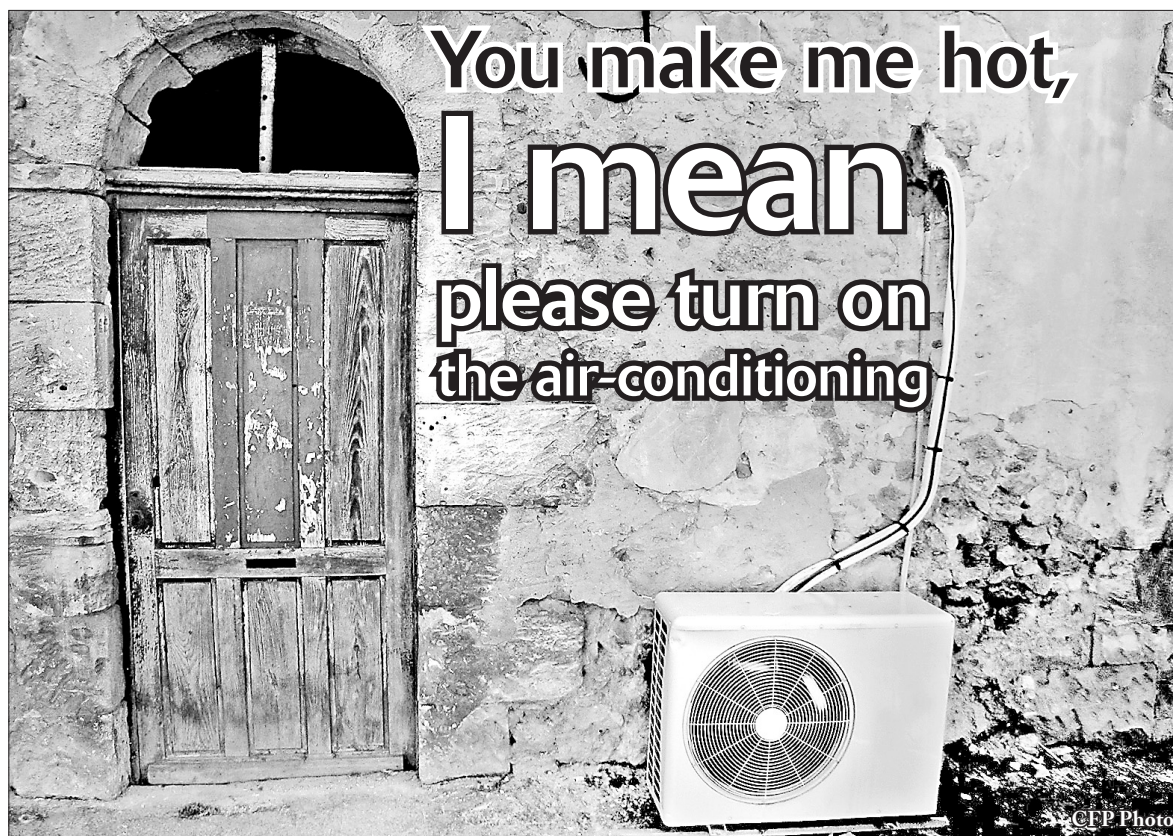
Add: Wanda International Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang District

Tel: 5960 3399



## Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Wang Yu at wangyu2008@ynet.com.



By Annie Wei

When the economic crisis hit, I lost my job. So I went to work in my boyfriend Lu's office as a translator and English tutor. My job was to help with English documents when dealing with overseas clients and to train his young employees in basic English.

My boyfriend runs an industrial design company, selling products from cell phones for old people to survival kits for skiers trapped by an avalanche. Although he only has a high-school diploma, Lu's company has more than 50 employees.

As the boss's girlfriend, I had privileges. One of them was having control of the air-conditioning.

This summer, Lu's office hired a new intern named Zhang as an assistant designer and translator. Twenty-one, fresh out of college, Zhang's

English grammar was great but he was not from Beijing and did not hang out with many native English speakers. Sometimes, he would blurt out something that surprised us all.

The other day, Zhang walked in the office with my coffee, sweating. He tried to turn on the air-conditioner, but I told him not to.

Later that day, one of Lu's British clients came to the office for a design meeting. Both Zhang and I attended the meeting as interpreters for Robert and Lu's designers.

During a five-minute break, people began making small talk, which was mainly about the weather and how hot and humid Beijing had been recently.

Suddenly, Zhang, looked at me and smiling blurted out of nowhere: "You always make me hot."

I was shocked and so embarrassed.

So were Mr Johnson and my boyfriend Lu. Although Lu rarely spoke English, he knew a lot of verbal English words and expressions by hanging out with our expat friends.

He knew "hot" in that context was an English word that his male friends use to describe girls they feel sexually attracted to.

My face flushed, but then I realized what he was really referring to. "Oh, oh. I got you. Sorry, I did not turn on the air-conditioning and today is too hot for every one," I said.

The embarrassment passed and the meeting continued.

I was thinking that there was nothing wrong in Zhang's expression, but in a certain context it could definitely be suggestive. Zhang did not know that the other meaning of "making someone hot" in English, but he does now.

## Blacklist

This is a column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then watch out for this page each week.

## 1. Design a shoe for a person

**Professor Zhu Shida (ZS):** A shoe is an outer covering for a person's foot, and normally consists of a stiff, durable sole and heel, and a lighter upper part. As most humans have two feet, we normally say "a pair of shoes," just as we say "shorts" and "pants." The line above should then be written this way: "Design a pair of shoes for a person" - not "a shoe."

When we mean "in another's place, situation or circumstances," we can say, "I would risk more if I were in his shoes." On occasion, we do use "shoe" in its singular form, but with a different meaning. When a situation is reversed, we say, "All of us should help as we want to be helped if the shoe were on the other foot." When we know where the real trouble or difficulty lies, we say, "Is that where the shoe pinches?"

**Native speaker Penny Turner (PT):**

This is a funny mistake, because of course, shoes come in pairs. Saying "design a shoe for a person" makes it sound like only one of the feet will get special treatment. There are instances we can drop "a pair" and a sentence will still work, like in these examples: Christian Louboutin designed shoes for the heiress. My sister ordered shoes online. But it is vague if they were referring to only a pair or mountains of shoes.

## 2. Our clients will benefit from the expertise in education and sociology.

**ZS:** Grammatically, there is nothing wrong with this sentence; the problem lies in the choice of words. Education can be a concrete noun, indicating "the knowledge gained through teaching." However, it can also be an abstract noun, referring to a branch of science concerned with the development of knowledge and skills.

The sentence above takes the first sense, thus "education" cannot be on a par with "sociology," a branch of science dealing with human behavior. The writer wishes to say that the clients of his social organization benefit from its expertise in correcting the behavior of teenagers who have done wrong and its expertise in social work. "Sociology" is not the same as "social work." The correct way to write this sentence is: The clients will benefit from our expertise in education and social work.

**PT:** This is a lesson for advanced English learners - the awareness of nuances in the various meanings of a word, and finding a word parallel to it when you have a sentence like the one above. This reminds me of a phrase we discussed months ago: "vegan, vegetarianism and organic eating." The problem with it lies in the categorization of items. "Vegan" is not equivalent to "vegetarian," but a narrower classification of it, so the first word had to be dropped from the list.

## 3. From the around the world

**ZS:** In English, two prepositions may be integrated to form a complex preposition. For instance, The man comes from under the bridge. "Around the world" is a set phrase meaning "all over the world." Here, it is used as the object of the preposition "from," so it is not right to have an article before it. The right way to say it is, "from around the world."

**PT:** This is a common mistake I have seen among Chinese learners of English; they add the article "the" where it is not needed or they miss it when it is a necessary part of the sentence.

## Chinglish on the way

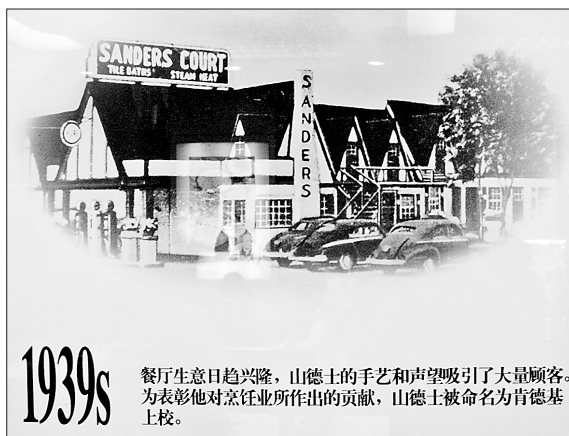
This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please send a picture of it to wangyu2008@ynet.com together with your name and address.

1939s

By Tiffany Tan

I did a double take when I saw this poster on the wall of a KFC restaurant. When you think you have about seen all the ways Chinglish signs can be written, you get hit with this. It also shows that a person can make an interesting find on a rainy, muddy afternoon in her not-so-favorite neighborhood in Chaoyang District.

This poster is part of a series of three hanging on the restaurant's walls, introducing KFC's history. I think one talked about the "1890s," and another, the



餐厅生意日趋兴隆，山德士的手艺和声望吸引了大量顾客。为表彰他对烹饪业所作出的贡献，山德士被命名为肯德基上校。

Photo by Tiffany Tan

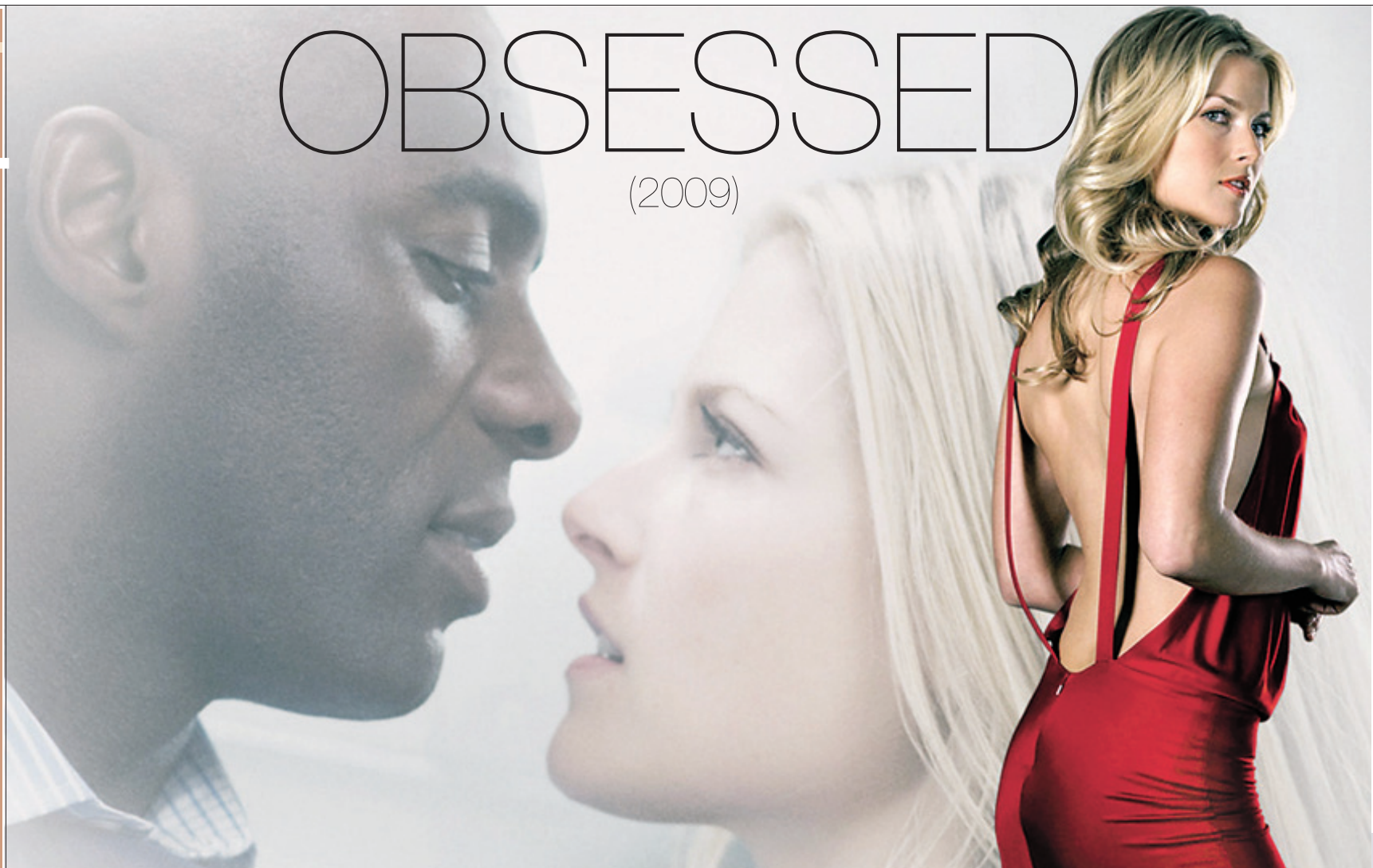
"1930s." Then this. It was such an alien concept it made me think for a couple of seconds if the writer could possibly get away with this "phrasing."

It is obvious the poster is discussing developments that occurred in 1939. I can imagine the writer/translator thinking that because 1890 and 1930 had an "s" after them, it is logical that 1939 follow the same pattern. Unfortunately, you have to throw the "s" away this time around; it only works when you lump time in terms of decades.



# OBSSESSED

(2009)



## Movie of the week

This movie was a blast! People were laughing and cheering throughout after I recommended this film to them. Was it because it was an Oscar-caliber film with amazing character development? No. It was because it was a brainless, campy thriller.

There were many laugh-out-loud moments. Were they supposed to be intentionally funny? That is hard to say, but they were enjoyable nonetheless.

Do not go into this movie expecting a deep, psychological thriller, because you will be disappointed. It is stupid fun, and what's wrong with stupid fun once in a while?

## Synopsis

Derek Charles (Idris Elba) is a hard working man, employed as an asset manager in a private company. He is very happy with his beautiful wife, Sharon (Beyonce Knowles), and only son, and because of his hard work he got a huge promotion. But suddenly he meets a temp who is smart and attractive, and Derek is understandably impressed with her and also finds himself drawn to her. However, this new girl is desperate to get close to him - at any cost.

## Scene 1: At the new house

**Sharon Charles (S):** Stop. I love the idea of the mirror on the ceiling, but that's just ugly.

**Derek Charles (D):** But the thing is, you look beautiful in it.

**S:** Now, see, if we're gonna take it down, we gotta at least try it out ... christen the new house. And what do you suggest we use for a bed?

**D:** We don't need a bed, because we got this fine carpet right here.

**S:** So I guess we'll have fine carpet tattoos all over our asses. Wait, baby, don't you have to go to work? I don't want any 30-second nookie.

**D:** I told them I'd be late. Now what?

**S:** What about the movers?

**D:** The movers? They're gonna be here in an hour, which is just enough time.

**S:** Derek. You are so bad.

**D:** Like that isn't why you married me?

**S:** What about Kyle?

**D:** He'll be all right. That boy will **sleep through anything (1)**.

## Scene 2: At Gage Bendix's office

**Ben (B):** D, you **cutting out (2)** early? I grabbed us a couple tickets to the Lakers tonight.

**Derek Charles (D):** You're killing me. I'm in the middle of moving, man.

**D:** I gotta get home.

**B:** So?

**D:** So do I look like a man who wants to get a divorce?

**B:** Why don't I call her and say we got a work emergency? Come on!

**D:** No thanks, I'll stay married.

**B:** Coward.

**Lisa (L):** You **punked (3)** me.

**D:** I'm sorry, but you **set me up (4)**.

**L:** I'll get my revenge. You might like to know ... that everybody disagrees with you.

## Scene 3: In the dining room

**Derek Charles (D):** You OK?

**Lisa (L):** It's nothing.

**D:** Nothing? You know, most people I know don't cry over nothing.

**L:** You think I'm crying? This is just allergies.

**D:** Oh, allergies, OK. What are you allergic to?

**L:** Men, apparently.

**D:** You having boyfriend troubles right now?

**L:** I'm beginning to think there's something wrong with me.

**D:** There's nothing wrong with you.

**L:** I wish I could believe that.

**D:** Maybe you haven't met the right guy yet.

**L:** I'm beginning to think all the good ones are taken.

**D:** I'm no expert, but, you know, if it didn't work out ... then maybe it wasn't meant to be. Maybe. And then, you know, you're gonna meet the right guy ... you'll know immediately.

**L:** Is that how it was with you and Sharon?

**D:** Yeah. Yeah, it does happen.

**L:** Great. Now I'm jealous.

**D:** Why?

**L:** She has everything. Perfect husband, perfect child, perfect marriage.

**D:** No. No, nothing's perfect. You know, there are problems in every relationship. The most important thing is to move forward. You gotta keep moving forward, you know? Hey, Lisa, look, don't **beat yourself up (5)** over this guy. Look at you, you're a bright, attractive woman. Any man would be lucky to have you.

**L:** Yeah, right.

**D:** No. Honestly, if I were single ...

**L:** You're just trying to make me feel better.

**D:** Is it working?

**L:** Yes.

## Scene 4: At a Christmas party

**Lisa (L):** Can I have one too?

**Derek Charles (D):** **Fix her up (6)**. The special.

**L:** That was delicious.

**D:** I told you. You know, we used to come back here after a hard day's work and **cut loose (7)**.

**L:** Work hard, play hard?

**D:** Yeah.

**L:** Back in the day, I would throw them back too.

**D:** Hey, how's your boyfriend trouble?

**L:** Keep moving forward, right?

**D:** Exactly.

## Scene 5: At the hospital

**Police officer (P):** How's he doing?

**Derek Charles (D):** Doctor says he's fine.

**Sharon Charles (S):** Well, I'm not fine. She was in our house. And now our son is in a hospital bed. I thought you said she was in San Francisco. Why is she back? And how did she even know we'd be out?

**P:** Obviously she was watching your house.

**D:** We need you to find her.

**P:** I will do everything in my power to find her.

**S:** One of you better do something about this woman. Or I will.

**D:** So, what am I supposed to do now? Buy a gun?

**P:** Please. We'll have our unit tracking her. In the meantime, you better **beef up (8)** your security system.

**D:** She could have hurt my son. My son.

## Vocabulary

- 1. sleep through anything:** to sleep so deep is it hard to wake up
- 2. cut out:** here means skip out of work
- 3. punk someone:** have someone fooled
- 4. set someone up:** to make someone believe in something that does not work out
- 5. beat yourself up:** to be critical of oneself to the point of depression
- 6. fix one up:** here it means fulfill someone's request
- 7. cut loose:** to relax
- 8. beef up:** to strengthen

(By Huang Daohen)